

OUR LADY OF RANSOM



30th April 2023 Easter 4A (Good Shepherd Sunday) Psalter Week 4

The dinner party was going well. The famous actor was cajoled by the gathering to give a soliloquy. So, with great eloquence, intonation and diction, he recited *The Lord's My Shepherd*... On finishing, the gathering gave him a great round of applause. Now, an elderly priest also at the party was also cajoled in to reciting the same thing, Psalm 23. Nervous, yet confident, with great reverence and obvious inner conviction, he shakily recited the same thing. On finishing, with a slight pregnant pause, the crowd similarly applauded him. Following the applause, the actor came back and asked the assembled party whether anyone had spotted a fundamental difference between the two of their recitals.

To the confused group he explained with obvious humility, "Yes, I am a professionally trained actor, I know how to deliver recitals and monologues, I know Psalm 23 - *The Lord's My Shepherd*..." "Yes", he said, "I know the psalm, but Father here clearly knows the Shepherd".

Major major difference. We can know our prayers, say them by heart, and even say them many times. Very good - but do we know the Shepherd? Jesus is often seen admonishing people who think they know Him because they 'say' lots of prayers. And they do not appear to know Him at all. We are called to know and experience the Shepherd - for ourselves. Like last week - no-one can do this for us.

To listen to his voice alone. So we see the importance of silent prayer. How can we even hope to sense His voice if we are continually babbling, using lots of words or thinking lots of things?

Many voices compete for our attention. But there will be one, deep down in our deepest intuitions that we will simply know is Our Lord. But if our mental energies are taken up with thinking and even more thinking, saying lots of things, reading this and reading that, we can never really sense the voice of the one true Shepherd? The voice is found at our deepest intuitions. So we are called to silent prayer, and make it a regular practice so we get in touch with these deeper intuitions. It is surely the finest way to 'discern our vocation (Our Lord's calling)' in life. This is today's challenge - the 'Good Shepherd'.

Yes, to 'know' our prayers is one thing - to 'know' the Shepherd is quite another. Our deepest intuitions will always bear out the voice – the presence of the Shepherd, where we just know we are being led to truth, forgiveness, building each other up, peace and love. Fulfilment. Any negative energies such as revenge, greed, jealousy - we know them - is simply not the true shepherd, and we remain empty, unfulfilled, angry and frustrated. In fact, all alternative voices leave us feeling similar. Shall we make trying to listen for the one true voice, the one presence, our regular practice? Wouldn't that make us and the world around us somewhat happier and a better place to live?

First Reading: Acts 2:14, 36-41

Psalm: Psalm 22(23)

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Sunday Coffee Mornings

If you are interested in hosting a Coffee Morning after 10am Sunday Masses to raise money for a charity of your choice, please contact the parish office.



Kids' Bulletin

A children's version of the gospel is available weekly. This can be accessed on the following website: www.thekidsbulletin.com and is aimed at primary school children. It can be downloaded and printed out.

Children's Liturgy- Dates and news

Please note dates for children's liturgy over the next few weeks:

30th April - Children's Liturgy (2 groups)

7th May- NO Children's Liturgy- First Holy Communion Mass

14th May- NO Children's Liturgy- First Holy Communion Mass

21st May- Children's Liturgy (2 groups)

Exciting news - on the 30th April and 21st May we are trialling running 2 groups, so that we are able to tailor our exploration of the Gospel message to 2 separate age groups. Children will come to the session in the usual way, and those in school years 3-6 will continue through the Bethany room to the sacristy, with a leader. The younger group will remain for children ages 3 to year 2.



KNIGHTS SPONSORED WALK

As lay 100 project, the Rayleigh Knights Council 456, are walking from OLOR Church to St Teresa's Church Rochford on Friday 5th May and Saturday 6th May. This is part of a sponsored relay from church to church around the diocese, our leg being from Rayleigh to Rochford. Donations will be greatly appreciated. Please take an envelope as you leave church and return your donation to the presbytery. Thank you.

Knights of St. Columba Competitions 2023

EASTER YOUTH AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Submission Date is Friday, 19th May 2023

At present there are a number of competitions for young people such as:

Painting, Photography, Essay, and Prayer Competitions for different age groups: If anyone would like details, they may contact me and I will forward all the details. Please email:

marting.doyle@blueyonder.co.uk Bro Martin Doyle Action and Youth Officer Council 456 KSC



SVP Spring Tea Party – Thank You. The members of the SVP, Rayleigh, would like to express a huge thank you to all those who helped in any way to make the SVP Spring Tea a wonderful success last Saturday afternoon. Whether through donations of cakes, raffle prizes, catering, waiting on tables or transport, these all contributed to the success of the afternoon. Thank you and God Bless.

Westminster Cathedral Choristers. Tuesday 2nd May at 6pm

The Westminster Cathedral Choristers are coming to Brentwood Cathedral to sing. This will take the form of a Mass and a brief Recital, together lasting no more than an hour and a half. Seating could be reasonably limited, therefore, please email

ninahow@dioceseofbrentwood.org to advice if you will be attending.

Legion of Mary – please read

Help needed with Meals, Transport and Accommodation. Can you help?

The Peregrinatio Pro Christo (PPC) Committee (the HQ of the Legion of Mary) will be coming to our parish, from the 15th to the 22nd July 2023. It will be a team of 12 Legionaries. Can we offer accommodation for these 12 people in various homes? Meals and Transport?

Otherwise the accommodation could prove very expensive on the team. Some financial assistance can be offered. The individual members are happy to sort out some of their own food. Please let Fr. Paul, or Isobel Kennedy (01702 230578) know if you can help. Thank you. The Parish has assisted before, can we do so again?

Knitting and Dementia

Do you like knitting? Do you want to support Dementia? The council is currently working on Dementia Action Week for May 15-22nd in Rayleigh, and are asking if you would like to knit in order to assist with forget me nots to decorate Rayleigh High St. If you are interested, please call Elizabeth on 07803 139927. Thank you.

EDEL QUINN PILGRIMAGE TO AYLESFORD, KENT. SATURDAY 13th MAY 2023

All parishioners, their families and friends are invited to join us for our annual pilgrimage to the shrine at Aylesford. There will be Mass at noon, Rosary procession around the grounds in the afternoon and finishing with Benediction. Confessions are available, book shop etc. Bring your own picnic lunch or buy refreshments there. A coach has been booked – pickup point in Rayleigh is the bus stop outside M&S in Eastwood Rd. Pick up time 9.30am. Cost of coach place £15. To reserve a place please contact Isobel Kennedy 07795 821705 as soon as possible.



Caritas Networking Day

Interested in the Catholic response to homelessness, welcoming refugees and migrants, assisting with the Cost of Living Crisis, or tackling the causes and effects of climate change? Come to the first Caritas Brentwood networking day, **Saturday 10th June, 10am – 2.30pm, at Sacred Heart of Mary School, Upminster** (on C2C & District lines, close to M25 & A127). Hear **national speaker Raymond Friel, OBE**, Chief Executive of the Catholic Social Action network. This day is a chance to be sustained, share ideas and good practices with people from parishes across Essex and East London and hear about charities and resources available. Details and Registration (free!) at www.caritasbrentwood.org/network

Homes for Ukraine Matching Service

Caritas Social Action Network, in partnership with St John of God Hospitaller Services, an international Catholic charity with many services for the vulnerable in the UK and Ireland, is matching Ukrainian people displaced by war with people in the Catholic community, willing to host them in their homes for six months. If you have room in your home and heart to consider welcoming a stranger, then we'd love to hear from you. Please visit <https://sjog-homesforukraine.uk/> for more information.

The Brentwood Catholic Children's Society is inviting parishioners across the Diocese to join in with their annual 'Relay 100' community event this May and June. This initiative is an opportunity to remind our community about the work we do, to reach families who may need our support and to raise some funds through sponsored walks, runs or cycles. We are looking for 100 individuals or groups to complete a 'leg' of our relay around the diocese; we have routes of varying distances so there is something to suit all abilities. Can you help us? To find out more, please contact Damian Dillon: ddillon@bccs.org.uk / 07912 308000 or visit <https://www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events/> and click on 'Relay 100 Sponsored Walks' to read more about this event.

Permanent Diaconate Event with the Bishop, 20th May 2023

Saturday 20th May 2023, 11.00 (Mass) to 14.30 at St Anne Line Catholic Church, 7 Grove Crescent, South Woodford, London, E18 2JR

'Come and See' event on the Permanent Diaconate with Bishop Alan, for all those wishing to learn more about the ministry of deacons in the Church and in the Diocese. Of particular interest to men considering a call to serve as deacons, and to parish priests seeking to promote vocations within their parishes. For further information please contact kencarleton@dioceseofbrentwood.org.



Couples Struggling in their Marriages

Retrouvaille: A Programme for

Help Your Marriage – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage. Tens of thousands of couples headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. The programme helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. It helps them through difficult times whether they are disillusioned or in deep misery. There is no group therapy or group work. For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the next programme commencing with a Virtual weekend on 6 - 9 July 2023 or a Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 13-15 October 2023, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 or email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

Clare Priory Pilgrimage, Sunday 14th May

11.30am Rosary and procession to the Shrine; 12.15pm Service of Reconciliation and Adoration; 2.15pm Mass of the Day. Further information contact: 01787 277326.
Email: clarepriory@clarepriory.net Clare Priory, Clare, Suffolk CO10 8NX
Website: www.clarepriory.org.uk

Praying for the unborn and women facing crisis pregnancies

Join Lord Alton on a sponsored walk from where Tolkien wrote The Lord of the Rings
There will be two sponsored walks in support of Right To Life UK in May.
The Christian Heritage Centre, based at Stonyhurst College, Lancashire, has organised a sponsored walk along the Tolkien Trail on Monday 8 May. Discounted accommodation will be available at Theodore House, Stonyhurst.
The Burnley Knights of St Columba and Catenian Circle 154 have also organised a 10km sponsored walk for Right To Life UK on Monday 29 May.
For further details on how you can join either of the walks visit:
www.righttolife.org.uk/sponsoredwalks

SION COMMUNITY CHARISMATIC TEACHING WEEKEND

From 6pm Friday 19th May to 2pm Sunday 21st May 2023. Theme: 'Living the Prophetic Lifestyle' (part of the 'Moving in the Anointing' series). This weekend is a great follow-up to 'Life in the Spirit' seminars and an opportunity to grow in the Gifts and Charisms of the Holy Spirit. Guest Speaker: Dominic McDermott. Cost: £120 residential, £80 non-residential. Book early as we have limited spaces. To book a place or for more info, visit:
<https://sioncommunity.churchsuite.com/events/f8v3emks>

March for Life UK

Save The Date; The Annual London March for Life will take place on Saturday 2nd September.

THE THRESHOLDS OF HOPE EASTER TALKS will explore what it means to have an intimate friendship with Christ. They will take place on Wednesdays 10th, 17th and 24th of May at St Francis of Assisi, Stratford, E15 1NS from 7.30 - 9.00 p.m. The first talk, "*Calling on the name of Jesus*," will be given by Fr Martin Boland, the Dean of Brentwood Cathedral. All very welcome..

GIDEA PARK STUDY DAY ON POPE BENEDICT AND THE LITURGY

On Saturday 20th May, from 11.00 to 13.00 BST, Fr Vincent Twomey SVD, student and friend of Pope Benedict XVI, will speak on 'The Liturgical Vision of Pope Benedict'. The event will not be in person but live streamed from Ireland on www.whatgoodnews.org. Fr Twomey has recently produced 'The Dynamics of Liturgy: Joseph Ratzinger's Theology of Liturgy', published by Ignatius Press. Further details of the event are to be found on the attached flyer and on the website www.whatgoodnews.org A recording of the study day will be made available subsequently on the website.

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Vacancies:

Hospitality Manager at Walsingham House at Abbotswick. Walsingham House are seeking to appoint a friendly, reliable and trustworthy Hospitality Manager. The postholder will be responsible for welcoming groups wishing to use the retreat centre, being a point of contact and managing the practicalities of the day. For more information please see www.bcys.net or email Claire Bailey for more information (clairebailey@brcdt.org) The closing date for applications is midday on Friday 12th May 2023.

Primary School Link Adviser

The Diocese of Brentwood is seeking to appoint a Primary School Link Adviser who is a practising Catholic, to support the Diocesan Board of Education and its family of schools. This is likely to be a part-time post of either 3 or 4 days a week, however, consideration will also be given to applicants who are seeking a full-time or secondment opportunity. The Primary Link Adviser will report to the Diocesan Director of Education and Deputy Director.

Further details and an application form can be obtained here:

<https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/primary-link-adviser-vacancy/>

The closing date for applications is midday on Friday 28th April 2023

Interviews will be held on Tuesday 2nd May 2023

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society is looking for a **Fundraising and Partnerships Manager** to join their team. This is an excellent opportunity for an enthusiastic and motivated individual to gain valuable experience in fundraising for an established and expanding charity. The Fundraising and Partnership Manager will be

required to generate income from new and existing fundraising activities and to develop and manage relationships across key support audiences. Applicants must have excellent organisational skills and be proficient at managing their time and priorities effectively, working independently and creatively. Read the full Job Description and Person Specification at <https://www.bccs.org.uk/who-we-are/work-us/> Applications should be returned to Julie Abbott, Head of Voluntary Income at jabbott@bccs.org.uk before the application deadline of Friday 12th May at midday.

Loyola Preparatory, a Catholic boy's school in Buckhurst Hill, is looking to appoint a **Deputy Headteacher** to join their small and friendly school in September 2023. For further information regarding this opportunity please see the TES jobs website. The closing date for applications is by 10am on 10th May 2023. Interested candidates are invited to contact the School Secretary, Mrs Long on 020 8504 7372 or by email to office@loyola.essex.sch.uk to arrange a tour of the school.

St Bernard's Girls Catholic High School. Are you an enthusiastic and inspiring LSA with the skills, confidence, creativity and energy to make a positive impact on the lives of our students?

You will be joining a successful, friendly and supportive department within a high performing school, supporting students from Y7 – Y13 with a range of special educational needs. Applications are welcomed from both experienced LSAs and those new to support.

Years 7-11 with a co-educational mixed Sixth Form. Our school is ranked one of the top schools in Southend, and we are in the top 20% of schools across the country for our progress with students and our outcomes. We offer our students an environment where they can excel academically, personally and spiritually. It is a warm and welcoming school where our Catholic values underpin our day to day life.

All new staff are supported within the positive ethos of this happy and high performing school, and to this end all staff complete an applicable induction training programme. The community at St Bernard's welcome applications from teachers of all faiths or none.

Please complete the final teaching application form found on our website www.stbernardswestcliff.org.uk under School Information/Vacancies – please note we do not accept CVs

Closing Date: 28 May 2023, 9.00am

Interviews: tbc We do reserve the right to close this advertisement early if we receive a high volume of suitable applications. Please contact the HR department for further information on recruitment@stbernards.southend.sch.uk

The Governing Body is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff to share in this commitment.

OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS

Thanks to all who continue to support our parish financially.

QR Codes

Please see on the bench in front of you in church, and at the end of this newsletter. The **QR codes** you can use with your Smart Phones. Giving electronically prevents too much cash lying around and can be of great help. If you can use this way of donating, please do so, it would be a great help. Alternatively, please see QR codes in the church porch. Thank you.

GIFT AID If you are a taxpayer and donate to the parish online or via bank transfer, it's worth a reminder that we could get **an extra 25%** on your donations if you sign up to the Gift Aid scheme.

Please contact Sandra our Gift Aid Co-ordinator (olorgiftaid@hotmail.com / **01268 772998**) **if you have any questions.** Thank you

Donate with Gift Aid

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If you wish to Gift Aid your donation please scan the codes in this section after reading the declaration.

Please treat as gift aid donation, all qualifying gifts of money made from the date of this declaration. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that, if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations, it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Donate £3.00	Donate £5.00	Donate £10.00	Donate £20.00
			

Donate without Gift Aid

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Holy Communion from the Chalice

The Bishops of England and Wales have said that Communion from the Chalice—the Precious Blood—may be resumed from Easter. Our Bishop has stated that this is a permission and not obligatory. The Chalice was suspended at the start of the pandemic to prevent the spread of the virus. Many of us are understandably still being vigilant with regard to further contagion, especially if we are vulnerable. The teaching of the Church is that when we receive Holy Communion, Christ is present whole and entire—Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity—under either kind. By receiving under one species we do not receive less of Christ or less grace. Receiving from the Chalice obviously emphasises the sacramental sign—of eating and drinking the Body and Blood of The Lord. The counsel we are receiving is that we should reintroduce the Chalice prudently and cautiously once it is clear that the majority of parishioners are content that Covid, Influenza and other diseases are not communicable. It would seem unwise to reintroduce this practice and then have to withdraw it with the approach of winter. I have communicated this with our extra-ordinary ministers of Holy Communion to ensure that they feel satisfied that this is once again safe, since they will need to purify and consume what remains in the Chalice; I am not happy asking others to do something that I, for sure, would not be prepared to do myself, given the potential attendant health risks. I, too, am fairly vulnerable. The Southend Deanery has also discussed this and have jointly made this decision too for their Parishes.

The question of the possibility of Intinction (when the Host is dipped into the Precious Blood so that a communicant receives both together) has been raised. The Bishops' Conference has decided to affirm the practice found in *Celebrating the Mass* which states that this form of the reception of Holy Communion “is not recommended in England and Wales.” It restricts the possibility of the communicant to receive the host reverently in their hands. Likewise, communicants are not permitted to receive Holy Communion by “self-intinction” where having received the Sacred Host in the hand, they proceed to the Precious Blood and “dip” the host themselves into the chalice. Sacraments are never taken, but received, and the gesture of “self-intinction” denies this reality.

I hope this helps.

Thank you. Fr. Paul

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Retrouvaille: A Programme for

Help Your Marriage – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage. Tens of thousands of couples headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. The programme helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. It helps them through difficult times whether they are disillusioned or in deep misery. There is no group therapy or group work. For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the next programme commencing with a Virtual weekend on 6 - 9 July 2023 or a Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 13-15 October 2023, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 or email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

Clare Priory Pilgrimage, Sunday 14th May

11.30am Rosary and procession to the Shrine; 12.15pm Service of Reconciliation and Adoration; 2.15pm Mass of the Day. Further information contact: 01787 277326.
Email: clarepriory@clarepriory.net Clare Priory, Clare, Suffolk CO10 8NX
Website: www.clarepriory.org.uk

Praying for the unborn and women facing crisis pregnancies

Join Lord Alton on a sponsored walk from where Tolkien wrote The Lord of the Rings
There will be two sponsored walks in support of Right To Life UK in May.
The Christian Heritage Centre, based at Stonyhurst College, Lancashire, has organised a sponsored walk along the Tolkien Trail on Monday 8 May. Discounted accommodation will be available at Theodore House, Stonyhurst.
The Burnley Knights of St Columba and Catenian Circle 154 have also organised a 10km sponsored walk for Right To Life UK on Monday 29 May.
For further details on how you can join either of the walks visit:
www.righttolife.org.uk/sponsoredwalks

SION COMMUNITY CHARISMATIC TEACHING WEEKEND

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<https://sioncommunity.churchsuite.com/events/f8v3emks>

March for Life UK

Save The Date; The Annual London March for Life will take place on Saturday 2nd September.

THE THRESHOLDS OF HOPE EASTER TALKS will explore what it means to have an intimate friendship with Christ. They will take place on Wednesdays 10th, 17th and 24th of May at St Francis of Assisi, Stratford, E15 1NS from 7.30 - 9.00 p.m. The first talk, "*Calling on the name of Jesus*," will be given by Fr Martin Boland, the Dean of Brentwood Cathedral. All very welcome..

GIDEA PARK STUDY DAY ON POPE BENEDICT AND THE LITURGY

On Saturday 20th May, from 11.00 to 13.00 BST, Fr Vincent Twomey SVD, student and friend of Pope Benedict XVI, will speak on 'The Liturgical Vision of Pope Benedict'. The event will not be in person but live streamed from Ireland on www.whatgoodnews.org. Fr Twomey has recently produced 'The Dynamics of Liturgy: Joseph Ratzinger's Theology of Liturgy', published by Ignatius Press. Further details of the event are to be found on the attached flyer and on the website www.whatgoodnews.org A recording of the study day will be made available subsequently on the website.

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Vacancies:

Hospitality Manager at Walsingham House at Abbotswick. Walsingham House are seeking to appoint a friendly, reliable and trustworthy Hospitality Manager. The postholder will be responsible for welcoming groups wishing to use the retreat centre, being a point of contact and managing the practicalities of the day. For more information please see www.bcys.net or email Claire Bailey for more information (clairebailey@brcdt.org) The closing date for applications is midday on Friday 12th May 2023.

Primary School Link Adviser

The Diocese of Brentwood is seeking to appoint a Primary School Link Adviser who is a practising Catholic, to support the Diocesan Board of Education and its family of schools. This is likely to be a part-time post of either 3 or 4 days a week, however, consideration will also be given to applicants who are seeking a full-time or secondment opportunity. The Primary Link Adviser will report to the Diocesan Director of Education and Deputy Director.

Further details and an application form can be obtained here:

<https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/primary-link-adviser-vacancy/>

The closing date for applications is midday on Friday 28th April 2023

Interviews will be held on Tuesday 2nd May 2023

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society is looking for a **Fundraising and Partnerships Manager** to join their team. This is an excellent opportunity for an enthusiastic and motivated individual to gain valuable experience in fundraising for an established and expanding charity. The Fundraising and Partnership Manager will be

required to generate income from new and existing fundraising activities and to develop and manage relationships across key support audiences. Applicants must have excellent organisational skills and be proficient at managing their time and priorities effectively, working independently and creatively. Read the full Job Description and Person Specification at <https://www.bccs.org.uk/who-we-are/work-us/> Applications should be returned to Julie Abbott, Head of Voluntary Income at jabbott@bccs.org.uk before the application deadline of Friday 12th May at midday.

Loyola Preparatory, a Catholic boy's school in Buckhurst Hill, is looking to appoint a **Deputy Headteacher** to join their small and friendly school in September 2023. For further information regarding this opportunity please see the TES jobs website. The closing date for applications is by 10am on 10th May 2023. Interested candidates are invited to contact the School Secretary, Mrs Long on 020 8504 7372 or by email to office@loyola.essex.sch.uk to arrange a tour of the school.

St Bernard's Girls Catholic High School. Are you an enthusiastic and inspiring LSA with the skills, confidence, creativity and energy to make a positive impact on the lives of our students?

You will be joining a successful, friendly and supportive department within a high performing school, supporting students from Y7 – Y13 with a range of special educational needs. Applications are welcomed from both experienced LSAs and those new to support.

Years 7-11 with a co-educational mixed Sixth Form. Our school is ranked one of the top schools in Southend, and we are in the top 20% of schools across the country for our progress with students and our outcomes. We offer our students an environment where they can excel academically, personally and spiritually. It is a warm and welcoming school where our Catholic values underpin our day to day life.

All new staff are supported within the positive ethos of this happy and high performing school, and to this end all staff complete an applicable induction training programme. The community at St Bernard's welcome applications from teachers of all faiths or none.

Please complete the final teaching application form found on our website www.stbernardswestcliff.org.uk under School Information/Vacancies – please note we do not accept CVs

Closing Date: 28 May 2023, 9.00am

Interviews: tbc We do reserve the right to close this advertisement early if we receive a high volume of suitable applications. Please contact the HR department for further information on recruitment@stbernards.southend.sch.uk

The Governing Body is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff to share in this commitment.

OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS

Thanks to all who continue to support our parish financially.

QR Codes

Please see on the bench in front of you in church, and at the end of this newsletter. The **QR codes** you can use with your Smart Phones. Giving electronically prevents too much cash lying around and can be of great help. If you can use this way of donating, please do so, it would be a great help. Alternatively, please see QR codes in the church porch. Thank you.

GIFT AID If you are a taxpayer and donate to the parish online or via bank transfer, it's worth a reminder that we could get **an extra 25%** on your donations if you sign up to the Gift Aid scheme.

Please contact Sandra our Gift Aid Co-ordinator (olorgiftaid@hotmail.com / **01268 772998**) **if you have any questions.** Thank you

Donate with Gift Aid

giftaid it





If you wish to Gift Aid your donation please scan the codes in this section after reading the declaration.

Please treat as gift aid donation, all qualifying gifts of money made from the date of this declaration. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that, if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations, it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Donate £3.00	Donate £5.00	Donate £10.00	Donate £20.00
			

Donate without Gift Aid

If you are unable to donate with Gift Aid then please use the codes below

Donate £3.00	Donate £5.00	Donate £10.00	Donate £20.00
			

Holy Communion from the Chalice

The Bishops of England and Wales have said that Communion from the Chalice—the Precious Blood—may be resumed from Easter. Our Bishop has stated that this is a permission and not obligatory. The Chalice was suspended at the start of the pandemic to prevent the spread of the virus. Many of us are understandably still being vigilant with regard to further contagion, especially if we are vulnerable. The teaching of the Church is that when we receive Holy Communion, Christ is present whole and entire—Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity—under either kind. By receiving under one species we do not receive less of Christ or less grace. Receiving from the Chalice obviously emphasises the sacramental sign—of eating and drinking the Body and Blood of The Lord. The counsel we are receiving is that we should reintroduce the Chalice prudently and cautiously once it is clear that the majority of parishioners are content that Covid, Influenza and other diseases are not communicable. It would seem unwise to reintroduce this practice and then have to withdraw it with the approach of winter. I have communicated this with our extra-ordinary ministers of Holy Communion to ensure that they feel satisfied that this is once again safe, since they will need to purify and consume what remains in the Chalice; I am not happy asking others to do something that I, for sure, would not be prepared to do myself, given the potential attendant health risks. I, too, am fairly vulnerable. The Southend Deanery has also discussed this and have jointly made this decision too for their Parishes.

The question of the possibility of Intinction (when the Host is dipped into the Precious Blood so that a communicant receives both together) has been raised. The Bishops' Conference has decided to affirm the practice found in *Celebrating the Mass* which states that this form of the reception of Holy Communion “is not recommended in England and Wales.” It restricts the possibility of the communicant to receive the host reverently in their hands. Likewise, communicants are not permitted to receive Holy Communion by “self-intinction” where having received the Sacred Host in the hand, they proceed to the Precious Blood and “dip” the host themselves into the chalice. Sacraments are never taken, but received, and the gesture of “self-intinction” denies this reality.

I hope this helps.

Thank you. Fr. Paul

OUR LADY OF RANSOM



30th April 2023 Easter 4A (Good Shepherd Sunday) Psalter Week 4

The dinner party was going well. The famous actor was cajoled by the gathering to give a soliloquy. So, with great eloquence, intonation and diction, he recited *The Lord's My Shepherd*....On finishing, the gathering gave him a great round of applause. Now, an elderly priest also at the party was also cajoled in to reciting the same thing, Psalm 23. Nervous, yet confident, with great reverence and obvious inner conviction, he shakily recited the same thing. On finishing, with a slight pregnant pause, the crowd similarly applauded him. Following the applause, the actor came back and asked the assembled party whether anyone had spotted a fundamental difference between the two of their recitals.

To the confused group he explained with obvious humility, "Yes, I am a professionally trained actor, I know how to deliver recitals and monologues, I know Psalm 23 - *The Lord's My Shepherd*..." "Yes", he said, " I know the psalm, but Father here clearly knows the Shepherd".

Major major difference. We can know our prayers, say them by heart, and even say them many times. Very good - but do we know the Shepherd? Jesus is often seen admonishing people who think they know Him because they 'say' lots of prayers. And they do not appear to know Him at all. We are called to know and experience the Shepherd - for ourselves. Like last week - no-one can do this for us.

To listen to his voice alone. So we see the importance of silent prayer. How can we even hope to sense His voice if we are continually babbling, using lots of words or thinking lots of things?

Many voices compete for our attention. But there will be one, deep down in our deepest intuitions that we will simply know is Our Lord. But if our mental energies are taken up with thinking and even more thinking, saying lots of things, reading this and reading that, we can never really sense the voice of the one true Shepherd? The voice is found at our deepest intuitions. So we are called to silent prayer, and make it a regular practice so we get in touch with these deeper intuitions. It is surely the finest way to 'discern our vocation (Our Lord's calling)' in life. This is today's challenge - the 'Good Shepherd'.

Yes, to 'know' our prayers is one thing - to 'know' the Shepherd is quite another. Our deepest intuitions will always bear out the voice – the presence of the Shepherd, where we just know we are being led to truth, forgiveness, building each other up, peace and love. Fulfilment. Any negative energies such as revenge, greed, jealousy - we know them - is simply not the true shepherd, and we remain empty, unfulfilled, angry and frustrated. In fact, all alternative voices leave us feeling similar. Shall we make trying to listen for the one true voice, the one presence, our regular practice? Wouldn't that make us and the world around us somewhat happier and a better place to live?

First Reading: Acts 2:14, 36-41

Psalm: Psalm 22(23)

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:20-25

Gospel: John 10:1-10



MASS INTENTIONS	
Saturday 29th April	St Catherine of Siena
5.30pm	Irena Owczarek RIP (Anniv) (Krolikowski Family)
Sunday 30th April	Fourth Sunday of Easter
8.00am	John McMorroo RIP (Caroline & Steve Bunker)
10.00am	Parish Community
Monday 1st May	
9.30am	Fr Henry Young RIP
Tuesday 2nd May	St Athanasius
9.30am	Private Intention
Wednesday 3rd May	SS Philip and James
10.00am	Eva Murray RIP (Kathleen Murray)
Thursday 4th May	The English Martyrs
9.30am	Patricia Cotter RIP (Pat & Mary Rickard)
Friday 5th May	
9.30am	King Charles' Intentions
Saturday 6th May	St John Payne
5.30pm	Jack Gardiner RIP (Joan Gardiner)
Sunday 7th May	Fifth Sunday of Easter
8.00am Mass	Prayer Board Intentions
10.00am Mass	Parish Community and First Holy Communion Children

All Masses and Church Services are now Live Streamed.

To take part please go to <https://stream.seccomgroup.com/channel/olor>

Masses can be watched "live" or later as a recording.

<p>PARISH PRIEST Father Paul Fox 50 London Hill, Rayleigh Essex SS6 7HP 01268 38.24.99 www.olorchurch.org email: rayleigh@dioceseofbrentwood.org</p>	<p>Public Mass times: Saturdays 5.30pm Sundays 8am & 10.00am Mondays 9.30am Wednesdays 10.00am Thursdays & Fridays 9.30am <i>Please be aware - Times and days of weekday Masses are subject to change.</i></p>
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Sacrament of Reconciliation: 4.30pm – 5pm Saturday evenings (not in the confessional box).

Our Parish is part of The Brentwood Diocesan Trust, Registered Charity Number 234092



ANNIVERSARIES †

Kindly pray for Terry Askem, Vera Cooling, Fr. Andrew Dorricott, and Michael O'Flanagan, whose anniversaries occur about this time. May they rest in peace.

Receiving from the Chalice. *We have now re-introduced the Chalice. Please feel under NO obligation to receive from it. Please, let no-one push you in to either receiving or not receiving. It should be your own decision for the reasons mentioned at the end of this newsletter. It is on offer for those who wish to receive the precious Blood as well as the Sacred Host. We will attempt to offer the Chalice at all the weekend Masses.*

Mass 9.30am on Tuesday this week.

Mass on Friday at 9.30am will be offered for King Charles. There will be extra prayers during this Mass regarding the coronation and the future of his reign. Please help yourselves to prayer cards in the church porch.

This Sunday (30th) is Good Shepherd Sunday - World Day of Prayer for Vocations.

Please pray for vocations to the priesthood everywhere and for those currently training for the priesthood. (Please also pray for all who are choosing a vocation rather than a career). The second collection supports the education and formation of our seminarians training for mpriesthood. Please help yourselves to prayer cards in the church porch.

First Holy Communion Masses

Please note that these will happen at the 10am Masses next Sunday, May 7th when 14 of our children will receive Our Lord's Body for the first time; and the following Sunday, May 14th when 12 children will do the same. Please keep our First Holy Communion children and their families in your prayers.



First Holy Communion Rehearsal

First Holy Communion Rehearsal is on Wednesday 3rd May at the church. 6pm till 7.30pm. Parents and children are to attend.

NEWSLETTER ITEMS:

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11.30am Rosary and procession to the Shrine; 12.15pm Service of Reconciliation and Adoration; 2.15pm Mass of the Day. Further information contact: 01787 277326.
Email: clarepriory@clarepriory.net Clare Priory, Clare, Suffolk CO10 8NX
Website: www.clarepriory.org.uk

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St Bernard's Girls Catholic High School. Are you an enthusiastic and inspiring LSA with the skills, confidence, creativity and energy to make a positive impact on the lives of our students?

You will be joining a successful, friendly and supportive department within a high performing school, supporting students from Y7 – Y13 with a range of special educational needs. Applications are welcomed from both experienced LSAs and those new to support.

Years 7-11 with a co-educational mixed Sixth Form. Our school is ranked one of the top schools in Southend, and we are in the top 20% of schools across the country for our progress with students and our outcomes. We offer our students an environment where they can excel academically, personally and spiritually. It is a warm and welcoming school where our Catholic values underpin our day to day life.

All new staff are supported within the positive ethos of this happy and high performing school, and to this end all staff complete an applicable induction training programme. The community at St Bernard's welcome applications from teachers of all faiths or none.

Please complete the final teaching application form found on our website www.stbernardswestcliff.org.uk under School Information/Vacancies – please note we do not accept CVs

Closing Date: 28 May 2023, 9.00am

Interviews: tbc We do reserve the right to close this advertisement early if we receive a high volume of suitable applications. Please contact the HR department for further information on recruitment@stbernards.southend.sch.uk

The Governing Body is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff to share in this commitment.

OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS

Thanks to all who continue to support our parish financially.

QR Codes

Please see on the bench in front of you in church, and at the end of this newsletter. The **QR codes** you can use with your Smart Phones. Giving electronically prevents too much cash lying around and can be of great help. If you can use this way of donating, please do so, it would be a great help. Alternatively, please see QR codes in the church porch. Thank you.

GIFT AID If you are a taxpayer and donate to the parish online or via bank transfer, it's worth a reminder that we could get **an extra 25%** on your donations if you sign up to the Gift Aid scheme.

Please contact Sandra our Gift Aid Co-ordinator (olorgiftaid@hotmail.com / **01268 772998**) **if you have any questions.** Thank you

Donate with Gift Aid

giftaid it





If you wish to Gift Aid your donation please scan the codes in this section after reading the declaration.

Please treat as gift aid donation, all qualifying gifts of money made from the date of this declaration. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that, if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations, it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Donate £3.00	Donate £5.00	Donate £10.00	Donate £20.00
			

Donate without Gift Aid

If you are unable to donate with Gift Aid then please use the codes below

Donate £3.00	Donate £5.00	Donate £10.00	Donate £20.00
			

Holy Communion from the Chalice

The Bishops of England and Wales have said that Communion from the Chalice—the Precious Blood—may be resumed from Easter. Our Bishop has stated that this is a permission and not obligatory. The Chalice was suspended at the start of the pandemic to prevent the spread of the virus. Many of us are understandably still being vigilant with regard to further contagion, especially if we are vulnerable. The teaching of the Church is that when we receive Holy Communion, Christ is present whole and entire—Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity—under either kind. By receiving under one species we do not receive less of Christ or less grace. Receiving from the Chalice obviously emphasises the sacramental sign—of eating and drinking the Body and Blood of The Lord. The counsel we are receiving is that we should reintroduce the Chalice prudently and cautiously once it is clear that the majority of parishioners are content that Covid, Influenza and other diseases are not communicable. It would seem unwise to reintroduce this practice and then have to withdraw it with the approach of winter. I have communicated this with our extra-ordinary ministers of Holy Communion to ensure that they feel satisfied that this is once again safe, since they will need to purify and consume what remains in the Chalice; I am not happy asking others to do something that I, for sure, would not be prepared to do myself, given the potential attendant health risks. I, too, am fairly vulnerable. The Southend Deanery has also discussed this and have jointly made this decision too for their Parishes.

The question of the possibility of Intinction (when the Host is dipped into the Precious Blood so that a communicant receives both together) has been raised. The Bishops' Conference has decided to affirm the practice found in *Celebrating the Mass* which states that this form of the reception of Holy Communion “is not recommended in England and Wales.” It restricts the possibility of the communicant to receive the host reverently in their hands. Likewise, communicants are not permitted to receive Holy Communion by “self-intinction” where having received the Sacred Host in the hand, they proceed to the Precious Blood and “dip” the host themselves into the chalice. Sacraments are never taken, but received, and the gesture of “self-intinction” denies this reality.

I hope this helps.

Thank you. Fr. Paul

OUR LADY OF RANSOM



30th April 2023 Easter 4A (Good Shepherd Sunday) Psalter Week 4

The dinner party was going well. The famous actor was cajoled by the gathering to give a soliloquy. So, with great eloquence, intonation and diction, he recited *The Lord's My Shepherd*... On finishing, the gathering gave him a great round of applause. Now, an elderly priest also at the party was also cajoled in to reciting the same thing, Psalm 23. Nervous, yet confident, with great reverence and obvious inner conviction, he shakily recited the same thing. On finishing, with a slight pregnant pause, the crowd similarly applauded him. Following the applause, the actor came back and asked the assembled party whether anyone had spotted a fundamental difference between the two of their recitals.

To the confused group he explained with obvious humility, "Yes, I am a professionally trained actor, I know how to deliver recitals and monologues, I know Psalm 23 - *The Lord's My Shepherd*..." "Yes", he said, "I know the psalm, but Father here clearly knows the Shepherd".

Major major difference. We can know our prayers, say them by heart, and even say them many times. Very good - but do we know the Shepherd? Jesus is often seen admonishing people who think they know Him because they 'say' lots of prayers. And they do not appear to know Him at all. We are called to know and experience the Shepherd - for ourselves. Like last week - no-one can do this for us.

To listen to his voice alone. So we see the importance of silent prayer. How can we even hope to sense His voice if we are continually babbling, using lots of words or thinking lots of things?

Many voices compete for our attention. But there will be one, deep down in our deepest intuitions that we will simply know is Our Lord. But if our mental energies are taken up with thinking and even more thinking, saying lots of things, reading this and reading that, we can never really sense the voice of the one true Shepherd? The voice is found at our deepest intuitions. So we are called to silent prayer, and make it a regular practice so we get in touch with these deeper intuitions. It is surely the finest way to 'discern our vocation (Our Lord's calling)' in life. This is today's challenge - the 'Good Shepherd'.

Yes, to 'know' our prayers is one thing - to 'know' the Shepherd is quite another. Our deepest intuitions will always bear out the voice – the presence of the Shepherd, where we just know we are being led to truth, forgiveness, building each other up, peace and love. Fulfilment. Any negative energies such as revenge, greed, jealousy - we know them - is simply not the true shepherd, and we remain empty, unfulfilled, angry and frustrated. In fact, all alternative voices leave us feeling similar. Shall we make trying to listen for the one true voice, the one presence, our regular practice? Wouldn't that make us and the world around us somewhat happier and a better place to live?

First Reading: Acts 2:14, 36-41

Psalm: Psalm 22(23)

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:20-25

Gospel: John 10:1-10



MASS INTENTIONS	
Saturday 29th April	St Catherine of Siena
5.30pm	Irena Owczarek RIP (Anniv) (Krolikowski Family)
Sunday 30th April	Fourth Sunday of Easter
8.00am	John McMorroo RIP (Caroline & Steve Bunker)
10.00am	Parish Community
Monday 1st May	
9.30am	Fr Henry Young RIP
Tuesday 2nd May	St Athanasius
9.30am	Private Intention
Wednesday 3rd May	SS Philip and James
10.00am	Eva Murray RIP (Kathleen Murray)
Thursday 4th May	The English Martyrs
9.30am	Patricia Cotter RIP (Pat & Mary Rickard)
Friday 5th May	
9.30am	King Charles' Intentions
Saturday 6th May	St John Payne
5.30pm	Jack Gardiner RIP (Joan Gardiner)
Sunday 7th May	Fifth Sunday of Easter
8.00am Mass	Prayer Board Intentions
10.00am Mass	Parish Community and First Holy Communion Children

All Masses and Church Services are now Live Streamed.

To take part please go to <https://stream.seccomgroup.com/channel/olor>

Masses can be watched "live" or later as a recording.

<p>PARISH PRIEST Father Paul Fox 50 London Hill, Rayleigh Essex SS6 7HP 01268 38.24.99 www.olorchurch.org email: rayleigh@dioceseofbrentwood.org</p>	<p>Public Mass times: Saturdays 5.30pm Sundays 8am & 10.00am Mondays 9.30am Wednesdays 10.00am Thursdays & Fridays 9.30am <i>Please be aware - Times and days of weekday Masses are subject to change.</i></p>
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Sacrament of Reconciliation: 4.30pm – 5pm Saturday evenings (not in the confessional box).

Our Parish is part of The Brentwood Diocesan Trust, Registered Charity Number 234092



ANNIVERSARIES †

Kindly pray for Terry Askem, Vera Cooling, Fr. Andrew Dorricott, and Michael O'Flanagan, whose anniversaries occur about this time. May they rest in peace.

Receiving from the Chalice. *We have now re-introduced the Chalice. Please feel under NO obligation to receive from it. Please, let no-one push you in to either receiving or not receiving. It should be your own decision for the reasons mentioned at the end of this newsletter. It is on offer for those who wish to receive the precious Blood as well as the Sacred Host. We will attempt to offer the Chalice at all the weekend Masses.*

Mass 9.30am on Tuesday this week.

Mass on Friday at 9.30am will be offered for King Charles. There will be extra prayers during this Mass regarding the coronation and the future of his reign. Please help yourselves to prayer cards in the church porch.

This Sunday (30th) is Good Shepherd Sunday - World Day of Prayer for Vocations.

Please pray for vocations to the priesthood everywhere and for those currently training for the priesthood. (Please also pray for all who are choosing a vocation rather than a career). The second collection supports the education and formation of our seminarians training for mpriesthood. Please help yourselves to prayer cards in the church porch.

First Holy Communion Masses

Please note that these will happen at the 10am Masses next Sunday, May 7th when 14 of our children will receive Our Lord's Body for the first time; and the following Sunday, May 14th when 12 children will do the same. Please keep our First Holy Communion children and their families in your prayers.



First Holy Communion Rehearsal

First Holy Communion Rehearsal is on Wednesday 3rd May at the church. 6pm till 7.30pm. Parents and children are to attend.

NEWSLETTER ITEMS:

Please ensure all items for the parish newsletter are submitted to the office by **11am on Thursdays** at the latest.

Sunday Coffee Mornings

If you are interested in hosting a Coffee Morning after 10am Sunday Masses to raise money for a charity of your choice, please contact the parish office.



Kids' Bulletin

A children's version of the gospel is available weekly. This can be accessed on the following website: www.thekidsbulletin.com and is aimed at primary school children. It can be downloaded and printed out.

Children's Liturgy- Dates and news

Please note dates for children's liturgy over the next few weeks:

30th April - Children's Liturgy (2 groups)

7th May- NO Children's Liturgy- First Holy Communion Mass

14th May- NO Children's Liturgy- First Holy Communion Mass

21st May- Children's Liturgy (2 groups)

Exciting news - on the 30th April and 21st May we are trialling running 2 groups, so that we are able to tailor our exploration of the Gospel message to 2 separate age groups. Children will come to the session in the usual way, and those in school years 3-6 will continue through the Bethany room to the sacristy, with a leader. The younger group will remain for children ages 3 to year 2.



KNIGHTS SPONSORED WALK

As lay 100 project, the Rayleigh Knights Council 456, are walking from OLOR Church to St Teresa's Church Rochford on Friday 5th May and Saturday 6th May. This is part of a sponsored relay from church to church around the diocese, our leg being from Rayleigh to Rochford. Donations will be greatly appreciated. Please take an envelope as you leave church and return your donation to the presbytery. Thank you.

Knights of St. Columba Competitions 2023

EASTER YOUTH AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Submission Date is Friday, 19th May 2023

At present there are a number of competitions for young people such as:

Painting, Photography, Essay, and Prayer Competitions for different age groups: If anyone would like details, they may contact me and I will forward all the details. Please email:

marting.doyle@blueyonder.co.uk Bro Martin Doyle Action and Youth Officer Council 456 KSC



SVP Spring Tea Party – Thank You. The members of the SVP, Rayleigh, would like to express a huge thank you to all those who helped in any way to make the SVP Spring Tea a wonderful success last Saturday afternoon. Whether through donations of cakes, raffle prizes, catering, waiting on tables or transport, these all contributed to the success of the afternoon. Thank you and God Bless.

Westminster Cathedral Choristers. Tuesday 2nd May at 6pm

The Westminster Cathedral Choristers are coming to Brentwood Cathedral to sing. This will take the form of a Mass and a brief Recital, together lasting no more than an hour and a half. Seating could be reasonably limited, therefore, please email

ninahow@dioceseofbrentwood.org to advice if you will be attending.

Legion of Mary – please read

Help needed with Meals, Transport and Accommodation. Can you help?

The Peregrinatio Pro Christo (PPC) Committee (the HQ of the Legion of Mary) will be coming to our parish, from the 15th to the 22nd July 2023. It will be a team of 12 Legionaries. Can we offer accommodation for these 12 people in various homes? Meals and Transport?

Otherwise the accommodation could prove very expensive on the team. Some financial assistance can be offered. The individual members are happy to sort out some of their own food. Please let Fr. Paul, or Isobel Kennedy (01702 230578) know if you can help. Thank you. The Parish has assisted before, can we do so again?

Knitting and Dementia

Do you like knitting? Do you want to support Dementia? The council is currently working on Dementia Action Week for May 15-22nd in Rayleigh, and are asking if you would like to knit in order to assist with forget me nots to decorate Rayleigh High St. If you are interested, please call Elizabeth on 07803 139927. Thank you.

EDEL QUINN PILGRIMAGE TO AYLESFORD, KENT. SATURDAY 13th MAY 2023

All parishioners, their families and friends are invited to join us for our annual pilgrimage to the shrine at Aylesford. There will be Mass at noon, Rosary procession around the grounds in the afternoon and finishing with Benediction. Confessions are available, book shop etc. Bring your own picnic lunch or buy refreshments there. A coach has been booked – pickup point in Rayleigh is the bus stop outside M&S in Eastwood Rd. Pick up time 9.30am. Cost of coach place £15. To reserve a place please contact Isobel Kennedy 07795 821705 as soon as possible.



Caritas Networking Day

Interested in the Catholic response to homelessness, welcoming refugees and migrants, assisting with the Cost of Living Crisis, or tackling the causes and effects of climate change? Come to the first Caritas Brentwood networking day, **Saturday 10th June, 10am – 2.30pm, at Sacred Heart of Mary School, Upminster** (on C2C & District lines, close to M25 & A127). Hear **national speaker Raymond Friel, OBE**, Chief Executive of the Catholic Social Action network. This day is a chance to be sustained, share ideas and good practices with people from parishes across Essex and East London and hear about charities and resources available. Details and Registration (free!) at www.caritasbrentwood.org/network

Homes for Ukraine Matching Service

Caritas Social Action Network, in partnership with St John of God Hospitaller Services, an international Catholic charity with many services for the vulnerable in the UK and Ireland, is matching Ukrainian people displaced by war with people in the Catholic community, willing to host them in their homes for six months. If you have room in your home and heart to consider welcoming a stranger, then we'd love to hear from you. Please visit <https://sjog-homesforukraine.uk/> for more information.

The Brentwood Catholic Children's Society is inviting parishioners across the Diocese to join in with their annual 'Relay 100' community event this May and June. This initiative is an opportunity to remind our community about the work we do, to reach families who may need our support and to raise some funds through sponsored walks, runs or cycles. We are looking for 100 individuals or groups to complete a 'leg' of our relay around the diocese; we have routes of varying distances so there is something to suit all abilities. Can you help us? To find out more, please contact Damian Dillon: ddillon@bccs.org.uk / 07912 308000 or visit <https://www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events/> and click on 'Relay 100 Sponsored Walks' to read more about this event.

Permanent Diaconate Event with the Bishop, 20th May 2023

Saturday 20th May 2023, 11.00 (Mass) to 14.30 at St Anne Line Catholic Church, 7 Grove Crescent, South Woodford, London, E18 2JR

'Come and See' event on the Permanent Diaconate with Bishop Alan, for all those wishing to learn more about the ministry of deacons in the Church and in the Diocese. Of particular interest to men considering a call to serve as deacons, and to parish priests seeking to promote vocations within their parishes. For further information please contact kencarleton@dioceseofbrentwood.org.



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Donate with Gift Aid

giftaid it





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Donate £3.00	Donate £5.00	Donate £10.00	Donate £20.00
			

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I hope this helps.

Thank you. Fr. Paul

OUR LADY OF RANSOM



30th April 2023 Easter 4A (Good Shepherd Sunday) Psalter Week 4

The dinner party was going well. The famous actor was cajoled by the gathering to give a soliloquy. So, with great eloquence, intonation and diction, he recited *The Lord's My Shepherd*... On finishing, the gathering gave him a great round of applause. Now, an elderly priest also at the party was also cajoled in to reciting the same thing, Psalm 23. Nervous, yet confident, with great reverence and obvious inner conviction, he shakily recited the same thing. On finishing, with a slight pregnant pause, the crowd similarly applauded him. Following the applause, the actor came back and asked the assembled party whether anyone had spotted a fundamental difference between the two of their recitals.

To the confused group he explained with obvious humility, "Yes, I am a professionally trained actor, I know how to deliver recitals and monologues, I know Psalm 23 - *The Lord's My Shepherd*..." "Yes", he said, "I know the psalm, but Father here clearly knows the Shepherd".

Major major difference. We can know our prayers, say them by heart, and even say them many times. Very good - but do we know the Shepherd? Jesus is often seen admonishing people who think they know Him because they 'say' lots of prayers. And they do not appear to know Him at all. We are called to know and experience the Shepherd - for ourselves. Like last week - no-one can do this for us.

To listen to his voice alone. So we see the importance of silent prayer. How can we even hope to sense His voice if we are continually babbling, using lots of words or thinking lots of things?

Many voices compete for our attention. But there will be one, deep down in our deepest intuitions that we will simply know is Our Lord. But if our mental energies are taken up with thinking and even more thinking, saying lots of things, reading this and reading that, we can never really sense the voice of the one true Shepherd? The voice is found at our deepest intuitions. So we are called to silent prayer, and make it a regular practice so we get in touch with these deeper intuitions. It is surely the finest way to 'discern our vocation (Our Lord's calling)' in life. This is today's challenge - the 'Good Shepherd'.

Yes, to 'know' our prayers is one thing - to 'know' the Shepherd is quite another. Our deepest intuitions will always bear out the voice – the presence of the Shepherd, where we just know we are being led to truth, forgiveness, building each other up, peace and love. Fulfilment. Any negative energies such as revenge, greed, jealousy - we know them - is simply not the true shepherd, and we remain empty, unfulfilled, angry and frustrated. In fact, all alternative voices leave us feeling similar. Shall we make trying to listen for the one true voice, the one presence, our regular practice? Wouldn't that make us and the world around us somewhat happier and a better place to live?

First Reading: Acts 2:14, 36-41

Psalm: Psalm 22(23)

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:20-25

Gospel: John 10:1-10



MASS INTENTIONS	
Saturday 29th April	St Catherine of Siena
5.30pm	Irena Owczarek RIP (Anniv) (Krolikowski Family)
Sunday 30th April	Fourth Sunday of Easter
8.00am	John McMorroo RIP (Caroline & Steve Bunker)
10.00am	Parish Community
Monday 1st May	
9.30am	Fr Henry Young RIP
Tuesday 2nd May	St Athanasius
9.30am	Private Intention
Wednesday 3rd May	SS Philip and James
10.00am	Eva Murray RIP (Kathleen Murray)
Thursday 4th May	The English Martyrs
9.30am	Patricia Cotter RIP (Pat & Mary Rickard)
Friday 5th May	
9.30am	King Charles' Intentions
Saturday 6th May	St John Payne
5.30pm	Jack Gardiner RIP (Joan Gardiner)
Sunday 7th May	Fifth Sunday of Easter
8.00am Mass	Prayer Board Intentions
10.00am Mass	Parish Community and First Holy Communion Children

All Masses and Church Services are now Live Streamed.

To take part please go to <https://stream.seccomgroup.com/channel/olor>

Masses can be watched "live" or later as a recording.

<p>PARISH PRIEST Father Paul Fox 50 London Hill, Rayleigh Essex SS6 7HP 01268 38.24.99 www.olorchurch.org email: rayleigh@dioceseofbrentwood.org</p>	<p>Public Mass times: Saturdays 5.30pm Sundays 8am & 10.00am Mondays 9.30am Wednesdays 10.00am Thursdays & Fridays 9.30am <i>Please be aware - Times and days of weekday Masses are subject to change.</i></p>
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Sacrament of Reconciliation: 4.30pm – 5pm Saturday evenings (not in the confessional box).

Our Parish is part of The Brentwood Diocesan Trust, Registered Charity Number 234092



ANNIVERSARIES †

Kindly pray for Terry Askem, Vera Cooling, Fr. Andrew Dorricott, and Michael O'Flanagan, whose anniversaries occur about this time. May they rest in peace.

Receiving from the Chalice. *We have now re-introduced the Chalice. Please feel under NO obligation to receive from it. Please, let no-one push you in to either receiving or not receiving. It should be your own decision for the reasons mentioned at the end of this newsletter. It is on offer for those who wish to receive the precious Blood as well as the Sacred Host. We will attempt to offer the Chalice at all the weekend Masses.*

Mass 9.30am on Tuesday this week.

Mass on Friday at 9.30am will be offered for King Charles. There will be extra prayers during this Mass regarding the coronation and the future of his reign. Please help yourselves to prayer cards in the church porch.

This Sunday (30th) is Good Shepherd Sunday - World Day of Prayer for Vocations.

Please pray for vocations to the priesthood everywhere and for those currently training for the priesthood. (Please also pray for all who are choosing a vocation rather than a career). The second collection supports the education and formation of our seminarians training for mpriesthood. Please help yourselves to prayer cards in the church porch.

First Holy Communion Masses

Please note that these will happen at the 10am Masses next Sunday, May 7th when 14 of our children will receive Our Lord's Body for the first time; and the following Sunday, May 14th when 12 children will do the same. Please keep our First Holy Communion children and their families in your prayers.



First Holy Communion Rehearsal

First Holy Communion Rehearsal is on Wednesday 3rd May at the church. 6pm till 7.30pm. Parents and children are to attend.

NEWSLETTER ITEMS:

Please ensure all items for the parish newsletter are submitted to the office by **11am on Thursdays** at the latest.

Sunday Coffee Mornings

If you are interested in hosting a Coffee Morning after 10am Sunday Masses to raise money for a charity of your choice, please contact the parish office.



Kids' Bulletin

A children's version of the gospel is available weekly. This can be accessed on the following website: www.thekidsbulletin.com and is aimed at primary school children. It can be downloaded and printed out.

Children's Liturgy- Dates and news

Please note dates for children's liturgy over the next few weeks:

30th April - Children's Liturgy (2 groups)

7th May- NO Children's Liturgy- First Holy Communion Mass

14th May- NO Children's Liturgy- First Holy Communion Mass

21st May- Children's Liturgy (2 groups)

Exciting news - on the 30th April and 21st May we are trialling running 2 groups, so that we are able to tailor our exploration of the Gospel message to 2 separate age groups. Children will come to the session in the usual way, and those in school years 3-6 will continue through the Bethany room to the sacristy, with a leader. The younger group will remain for children ages 3 to year 2.



KNIGHTS SPONSORED WALK

As lay 100 project, the Rayleigh Knights Council 456, are walking from OLOR Church to St Teresa's Church Rochford on Friday 5th May and Saturday 6th May. This is part of a sponsored relay from church to church around the diocese, our leg being from Rayleigh to Rochford. Donations will be greatly appreciated. Please take an envelope as you leave church and return your donation to the presbytery. Thank you.

Knights of St. Columba Competitions 2023

EASTER YOUTH AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Submission Date is Friday, 19th May 2023

At present there are a number of competitions for young people such as:

Painting, Photography, Essay, and Prayer Competitions for different age groups: If anyone would like details, they may contact me and I will forward all the details. Please email:

marting.doyle@blueyonder.co.uk Bro Martin Doyle Action and Youth Officer Council 456 KSC



SVP Spring Tea Party – Thank You. The members of the SVP, Rayleigh, would like to express a huge thank you to all those who helped in any way to make the SVP Spring Tea a wonderful success last Saturday afternoon. Whether through donations of cakes, raffle prizes, catering, waiting on tables or transport, these all contributed to the success of the afternoon. Thank you and God Bless.

Westminster Cathedral Choristers. Tuesday 2nd May at 6pm

The Westminster Cathedral Choristers are coming to Brentwood Cathedral to sing. This will take the form of a Mass and a brief Recital, together lasting no more than an hour and a half. Seating could be reasonably limited, therefore, please email

ninahow@dioceseofbrentwood.org to advice if you will be attending.

Legion of Mary – please read

Help needed with Meals, Transport and Accommodation. Can you help?

The Peregrinatio Pro Christo (PPC) Committee (the HQ of the Legion of Mary) will be coming to our parish, from the 15th to the 22nd July 2023. It will be a team of 12 Legionaries. Can we offer accommodation for these 12 people in various homes? Meals and Transport?

Otherwise the accommodation could prove very expensive on the team. Some financial assistance can be offered. The individual members are happy to sort out some of their own food. Please let Fr. Paul, or Isobel Kennedy (01702 230578) know if you can help. Thank you. The Parish has assisted before, can we do so again?

Knitting and Dementia

Do you like knitting? Do you want to support Dementia? The council is currently working on Dementia Action Week for May 15-22nd in Rayleigh, and are asking if you would like to knit in order to assist with forget me nots to decorate Rayleigh High St. If you are interested, please call Elizabeth on 07803 139927. Thank you.

EDEL QUINN PILGRIMAGE TO AYLESFORD, KENT. SATURDAY 13th MAY 2023

All parishioners, their families and friends are invited to join us for our annual pilgrimage to the shrine at Aylesford. There will be Mass at noon, Rosary procession around the grounds in the afternoon and finishing with Benediction. Confessions are available, book shop etc. Bring your own picnic lunch or buy refreshments there. A coach has been booked – pickup point in Rayleigh is the bus stop outside M&S in Eastwood Rd. Pick up time 9.30am. Cost of coach place £15. To reserve a place please contact Isobel Kennedy 07795 821705 as soon as possible.



Caritas Networking Day

Interested in the Catholic response to homelessness, welcoming refugees and migrants, assisting with the Cost of Living Crisis, or tackling the causes and effects of climate change? Come to the first Caritas Brentwood networking day, **Saturday 10th June, 10am – 2.30pm, at Sacred Heart of Mary School, Upminster** (on C2C & District lines, close to M25 & A127). Hear **national speaker Raymond Friel, OBE**, Chief Executive of the Catholic Social Action network. This day is a chance to be sustained, share ideas and good practices with people from parishes across Essex and East London and hear about charities and resources available. Details and Registration (free!) at www.caritasbrentwood.org/network

Homes for Ukraine Matching Service

Caritas Social Action Network, in partnership with St John of God Hospitaller Services, an international Catholic charity with many services for the vulnerable in the UK and Ireland, is matching Ukrainian people displaced by war with people in the Catholic community, willing to host them in their homes for six months. If you have room in your home and heart to consider welcoming a stranger, then we'd love to hear from you. Please visit <https://sjog-homesforukraine.uk/> for more information.

The Brentwood Catholic Children's Society is inviting parishioners across the Diocese to join in with their annual 'Relay 100' community event this May and June. This initiative is an opportunity to remind our community about the work we do, to reach families who may need our support and to raise some funds through sponsored walks, runs or cycles. We are looking for 100 individuals or groups to complete a 'leg' of our relay around the diocese; we have routes of varying distances so there is something to suit all abilities. Can you help us? To find out more, please contact Damian Dillon: ddillon@bccs.org.uk / 07912 308000 or visit <https://www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events/> and click on 'Relay 100 Sponsored Walks' to read more about this event.

Permanent Diaconate Event with the Bishop, 20th May 2023

Saturday 20th May 2023, 11.00 (Mass) to 14.30 at St Anne Line Catholic Church, 7 Grove Crescent, South Woodford, London, E18 2JR

'Come and See' event on the Permanent Diaconate with Bishop Alan, for all those wishing to learn more about the ministry of deacons in the Church and in the Diocese. Of particular interest to men considering a call to serve as deacons, and to parish priests seeking to promote vocations within their parishes. For further information please contact kencarleton@dioceseofbrentwood.org.



Couples Struggling in their Marriages

Retrouvaille: A Programme for

Help Your Marriage – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage. Tens of thousands of couples headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. The programme helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. It helps them through difficult times whether they are disillusioned or in deep misery. There is no group therapy or group work. For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the next programme commencing with a Virtual weekend on 6 - 9 July 2023 or a Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 13-15 October 2023, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 or email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

Clare Priory Pilgrimage, Sunday 14th May

11.30am Rosary and procession to the Shrine; 12.15pm Service of Reconciliation and Adoration; 2.15pm Mass of the Day. Further information contact: 01787 277326.
Email: clarepriory@clarepriory.net Clare Priory, Clare, Suffolk CO10 8NX
Website: www.clarepriory.org.uk

Praying for the unborn and women facing crisis pregnancies

Join Lord Alton on a sponsored walk from where Tolkien wrote The Lord of the Rings
There will be two sponsored walks in support of Right To Life UK in May.
The Christian Heritage Centre, based at Stonyhurst College, Lancashire, has organised a sponsored walk along the Tolkien Trail on Monday 8 May. Discounted accommodation will be available at Theodore House, Stonyhurst.
The Burnley Knights of St Columba and Catenian Circle 154 have also organised a 10km sponsored walk for Right To Life UK on Monday 29 May.
For further details on how you can join either of the walks visit:
www.righttolife.org.uk/sponsoredwalks

SION COMMUNITY CHARISMATIC TEACHING WEEKEND

From 6pm Friday 19th May to 2pm Sunday 21st May 2023. Theme: 'Living the Prophetic Lifestyle' (part of the 'Moving in the Anointing' series). This weekend is a great follow-up to 'Life in the Spirit' seminars and an opportunity to grow in the Gifts and Charisms of the Holy Spirit. Guest Speaker: Dominic McDermott. Cost: £120 residential, £80 non-residential. Book early as we have limited spaces. To book a place or for more info, visit:
<https://sioncommunity.churchsuite.com/events/f8v3emks>

March for Life UK

Save The Date; The Annual London March for Life will take place on Saturday 2nd September.

THE THRESHOLDS OF HOPE EASTER TALKS will explore what it means to have an intimate friendship with Christ. They will take place on Wednesdays 10th, 17th and 24th of May at St Francis of Assisi, Stratford, E15 1NS from 7.30 - 9.00 p.m. The first talk, "*Calling on the name of Jesus*," will be given by Fr Martin Boland, the Dean of Brentwood Cathedral. All very welcome..

GIDEA PARK STUDY DAY ON POPE BENEDICT AND THE LITURGY

On Saturday 20th May, from 11.00 to 13.00 BST, Fr Vincent Twomey SVD, student and friend of Pope Benedict XVI, will speak on 'The Liturgical Vision of Pope Benedict'. The event will not be in person but live streamed from Ireland on www.whatgoodnews.org. Fr Twomey has recently produced 'The Dynamics of Liturgy: Joseph Ratzinger's Theology of Liturgy', published by Ignatius Press. Further details of the event are to be found on the attached flyer and on the website www.whatgoodnews.org A recording of the study day will be made available subsequently on the website.

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Vacancies:

Hospitality Manager at Walsingham House at Abbotswick. Walsingham House are seeking to appoint a friendly, reliable and trustworthy Hospitality Manager. The postholder will be responsible for welcoming groups wishing to use the retreat centre, being a point of contact and managing the practicalities of the day. For more information please see www.bcys.net or email Claire Bailey for more information (clairebailey@brcdt.org) The closing date for applications is midday on Friday 12th May 2023.

Primary School Link Adviser

The Diocese of Brentwood is seeking to appoint a Primary School Link Adviser who is a practising Catholic, to support the Diocesan Board of Education and its family of schools. This is likely to be a part-time post of either 3 or 4 days a week, however, consideration will also be given to applicants who are seeking a full-time or secondment opportunity. The Primary Link Adviser will report to the Diocesan Director of Education and Deputy Director.

Further details and an application form can be obtained here:

<https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/primary-link-adviser-vacancy/>

The closing date for applications is midday on Friday 28th April 2023

Interviews will be held on Tuesday 2nd May 2023

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society is looking for a **Fundraising and Partnerships Manager** to join their team. This is an excellent opportunity for an enthusiastic and motivated individual to gain valuable experience in fundraising for an established and expanding charity. The Fundraising and Partnership Manager will be

required to generate income from new and existing fundraising activities and to develop and manage relationships across key support audiences. Applicants must have excellent organisational skills and be proficient at managing their time and priorities effectively, working independently and creatively. Read the full Job Description and Person Specification at <https://www.bccs.org.uk/who-we-are/work-us/> Applications should be returned to Julie Abbott, Head of Voluntary Income at jabbott@bccs.org.uk before the application deadline of Friday 12th May at midday.

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Closing Date: 28 May 2023, 9.00am

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To the confused group he explained with obvious humility, "Yes, I am a professionally trained actor, I know how to deliver recitals and monologues, I know Psalm 23 - *The Lord's My Shepherd*..." "Yes", he said, "I know the psalm, but Father here clearly knows the Shepherd".

Major major difference. We can know our prayers, say them by heart, and even say them many times. Very good - but do we know the Shepherd? Jesus is often seen admonishing people who think they know Him because they 'say' lots of prayers. And they do not appear to know Him at all. We are called to know and experience the Shepherd - for ourselves. Like last week - no-one can do this for us.

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Many voices compete for our attention. But there will be one, deep down in our deepest intuitions that we will simply know is Our Lord. But if our mental energies are taken up with thinking and even more thinking, saying lots of things, reading this and reading that, we can never really sense the voice of the one true Shepherd? The voice is found at our deepest intuitions. So we are called to silent prayer, and make it a regular practice so we get in touch with these deeper intuitions. It is surely the finest way to 'discern our vocation (Our Lord's calling)' in life. This is today's challenge - the 'Good Shepherd'.

Yes, to 'know' our prayers is one thing - to 'know' the Shepherd is quite another. Our deepest intuitions will always bear out the voice – the presence of the Shepherd, where we just know we are being led to truth, forgiveness, building each other up, peace and love. Fulfilment. Any negative energies such as revenge, greed, jealousy - we know them - is simply not the true shepherd, and we remain empty, unfulfilled, angry and frustrated. In fact, all alternative voices leave us feeling similar. Shall we make trying to listen for the one true voice, the one presence, our regular practice? Wouldn't that make us and the world around us somewhat happier and a better place to live?

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Kids' Bulletin

A children's version of the gospel is available weekly. This can be accessed on the following website: www.thekidsbulletin.com and is aimed at primary school children. It can be downloaded and printed out.

Children's Liturgy- Dates and news

Please note dates for children's liturgy over the next few weeks:

30th April - Children's Liturgy (2 groups)

7th May- NO Children's Liturgy- First Holy Communion Mass

14th May- NO Children's Liturgy- First Holy Communion Mass

21st May- Children's Liturgy (2 groups)

Exciting news - on the 30th April and 21st May we are trialling running 2 groups, so that we are able to tailor our exploration of the Gospel message to 2 separate age groups. Children will come to the session in the usual way, and those in school years 3-6 will continue through the Bethany room to the sacristy, with a leader. The younger group will remain for children ages 3 to year 2.



KNIGHTS SPONSORED WALK

As lay 100 project, the Rayleigh Knights Council 456, are walking from OLOR Church to St Teresa's Church Rochford on Friday 5th May and Saturday 6th May. This is part of a sponsored relay from church to church around the diocese, our leg being from Rayleigh to Rochford. Donations will be greatly appreciated. Please take an envelope as you leave church and return your donation to the presbytery. Thank you.

Knights of St. Columba Competitions 2023

EASTER YOUTH AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Submission Date is Friday, 19th May 2023

At present there are a number of competitions for young people such as:

Painting, Photography, Essay, and Prayer Competitions for different age groups: If anyone would like details, they may contact me and I will forward all the details. Please email:

marting.doyle@blueyonder.co.uk Bro Martin Doyle Action and Youth Officer Council 456 KSC



SVP Spring Tea Party – Thank You. The members of the SVP, Rayleigh, would like to express a huge thank you to all those who helped in any way to make the SVP Spring Tea a wonderful success last Saturday afternoon. Whether through donations of cakes, raffle prizes, catering, waiting on tables or transport, these all contributed to the success of the afternoon. Thank you and God Bless.

Westminster Cathedral Choristers. Tuesday 2nd May at 6pm

The Westminster Cathedral Choristers are coming to Brentwood Cathedral to sing. This will take the form of a Mass and a brief Recital, together lasting no more than an hour and a half. Seating could be reasonably limited, therefore, please email

ninahow@dioceseofbrentwood.org to advice if you will be attending.

Legion of Mary – please read

Help needed with Meals, Transport and Accommodation. Can you help?

The Peregrinatio Pro Christo (PPC) Committee (the HQ of the Legion of Mary) will be coming to our parish, from the 15th to the 22nd July 2023. It will be a team of 12 Legionaries. Can we offer accommodation for these 12 people in various homes? Meals and Transport?

Otherwise the accommodation could prove very expensive on the team. Some financial assistance can be offered. The individual members are happy to sort out some of their own food. Please let Fr. Paul, or Isobel Kennedy (01702 230578) know if you can help. Thank you. The Parish has assisted before, can we do so again?

Knitting and Dementia

Do you like knitting? Do you want to support Dementia? The council is currently working on Dementia Action Week for May 15-22nd in Rayleigh, and are asking if you would like to knit in order to assist with forget me nots to decorate Rayleigh High St. If you are interested, please call Elizabeth on 07803 139927. Thank you.

EDEL QUINN PILGRIMAGE TO AYLESFORD, KENT. SATURDAY 13th MAY 2023

All parishioners, their families and friends are invited to join us for our annual pilgrimage to the shrine at Aylesford. There will be Mass at noon, Rosary procession around the grounds in the afternoon and finishing with Benediction. Confessions are available, book shop etc. Bring your own picnic lunch or buy refreshments there. A coach has been booked – pickup point in Rayleigh is the bus stop outside M&S in Eastwood Rd. Pick up time 9.30am. Cost of coach place £15. To reserve a place please contact Isobel Kennedy 07795 821705 as soon as possible.



Caritas Networking Day

Interested in the Catholic response to homelessness, welcoming refugees and migrants, assisting with the Cost of Living Crisis, or tackling the causes and effects of climate change? Come to the first Caritas Brentwood networking day, **Saturday 10th June, 10am – 2.30pm, at Sacred Heart of Mary School, Upminster** (on C2C & District lines, close to M25 & A127). Hear **national speaker Raymond Friel, OBE**, Chief Executive of the Catholic Social Action network. This day is a chance to be sustained, share ideas and good practices with people from parishes across Essex and East London and hear about charities and resources available. Details and Registration (free!) at www.caritasbrentwood.org/network

Homes for Ukraine Matching Service

Caritas Social Action Network, in partnership with St John of God Hospitaller Services, an international Catholic charity with many services for the vulnerable in the UK and Ireland, is matching Ukrainian people displaced by war with people in the Catholic community, willing to host them in their homes for six months. If you have room in your home and heart to consider welcoming a stranger, then we'd love to hear from you. Please visit <https://sjog-homesforukraine.uk/> for more information.

The Brentwood Catholic Children's Society is inviting parishioners across the Diocese to join in with their annual 'Relay 100' community event this May and June. This initiative is an opportunity to remind our community about the work we do, to reach families who may need our support and to raise some funds through sponsored walks, runs or cycles. We are looking for 100 individuals or groups to complete a 'leg' of our relay around the diocese; we have routes of varying distances so there is something to suit all abilities. Can you help us? To find out more, please contact Damian Dillon: ddillon@bccs.org.uk / 07912 308000 or visit <https://www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events/> and click on 'Relay 100 Sponsored Walks' to read more about this event.

Permanent Diaconate Event with the Bishop, 20th May 2023

Saturday 20th May 2023, 11.00 (Mass) to 14.30 at St Anne Line Catholic Church, 7 Grove Crescent, South Woodford, London, E18 2JR

'Come and See' event on the Permanent Diaconate with Bishop Alan, for all those wishing to learn more about the ministry of deacons in the Church and in the Diocese. Of particular interest to men considering a call to serve as deacons, and to parish priests seeking to promote vocations within their parishes. For further information please contact kencarleton@dioceseofbrentwood.org.



Couples Struggling in their Marriages

Retrouvaille: A Programme for

Help Your Marriage – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage. Tens of thousands of couples headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. The programme helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. It helps them through difficult times whether they are disillusioned or in deep misery. There is no group therapy or group work. For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the next programme commencing with a Virtual weekend on 6 - 9 July 2023 or a Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 13-15 October 2023, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 or email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

Clare Priory Pilgrimage, Sunday 14th May

11.30am Rosary and procession to the Shrine; 12.15pm Service of Reconciliation and Adoration; 2.15pm Mass of the Day. Further information contact: 01787 277326.
Email: clarepriory@clarepriory.net Clare Priory, Clare, Suffolk CO10 8NX
Website: www.clarepriory.org.uk

Praying for the unborn and women facing crisis pregnancies

Join Lord Alton on a sponsored walk from where Tolkien wrote The Lord of the Rings
There will be two sponsored walks in support of Right To Life UK in May.
The Christian Heritage Centre, based at Stonyhurst College, Lancashire, has organised a sponsored walk along the Tolkien Trail on Monday 8 May. Discounted accommodation will be available at Theodore House, Stonyhurst.
The Burnley Knights of St Columba and Catenian Circle 154 have also organised a 10km sponsored walk for Right To Life UK on Monday 29 May.
For further details on how you can join either of the walks visit:
www.righttolife.org.uk/sponsoredwalks

SION COMMUNITY CHARISMATIC TEACHING WEEKEND

From 6pm Friday 19th May to 2pm Sunday 21st May 2023. Theme: 'Living the Prophetic Lifestyle' (part of the 'Moving in the Anointing' series). This weekend is a great follow-up to 'Life in the Spirit' seminars and an opportunity to grow in the Gifts and Charisms of the Holy Spirit. Guest Speaker: Dominic McDermott. Cost: £120 residential, £80 non-residential. Book early as we have limited spaces. To book a place or for more info, visit:
<https://sioncommunity.churchsuite.com/events/f8v3emks>

March for Life UK

Save The Date; The Annual London March for Life will take place on Saturday 2nd September.

THE THRESHOLDS OF HOPE EASTER TALKS will explore what it means to have an intimate friendship with Christ. They will take place on Wednesdays 10th, 17th and 24th of May at St Francis of Assisi, Stratford, E15 1NS from 7.30 - 9.00 p.m. The first talk, "*Calling on the name of Jesus*," will be given by Fr Martin Boland, the Dean of Brentwood Cathedral. All very welcome..

GIDEA PARK STUDY DAY ON POPE BENEDICT AND THE LITURGY

On Saturday 20th May, from 11.00 to 13.00 BST, Fr Vincent Twomey SVD, student and friend of Pope Benedict XVI, will speak on 'The Liturgical Vision of Pope Benedict'. The event will not be in person but live streamed from Ireland on www.whatgoodnews.org. Fr Twomey has recently produced 'The Dynamics of Liturgy: Joseph Ratzinger's Theology of Liturgy', published by Ignatius Press. Further details of the event are to be found on the attached flyer and on the website www.whatgoodnews.org A recording of the study day will be made available subsequently on the website.

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Vacancies:

Hospitality Manager at Walsingham House at Abbotswick. Walsingham House are seeking to appoint a friendly, reliable and trustworthy Hospitality Manager. The postholder will be responsible for welcoming groups wishing to use the retreat centre, being a point of contact and managing the practicalities of the day. For more information please see www.bcys.net or email Claire Bailey for more information (clairebailey@brcdt.org) The closing date for applications is midday on Friday 12th May 2023.

Primary School Link Adviser

The Diocese of Brentwood is seeking to appoint a Primary School Link Adviser who is a practising Catholic, to support the Diocesan Board of Education and its family of schools. This is likely to be a part-time post of either 3 or 4 days a week, however, consideration will also be given to applicants who are seeking a full-time or secondment opportunity. The Primary Link Adviser will report to the Diocesan Director of Education and Deputy Director.

Further details and an application form can be obtained here:

<https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/primary-link-adviser-vacancy/>

The closing date for applications is midday on Friday 28th April 2023

Interviews will be held on Tuesday 2nd May 2023

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society is looking for a **Fundraising and Partnerships Manager** to join their team. This is an excellent opportunity for an enthusiastic and motivated individual to gain valuable experience in fundraising for an established and expanding charity. The Fundraising and Partnership Manager will be

required to generate income from new and existing fundraising activities and to develop and manage relationships across key support audiences. Applicants must have excellent organisational skills and be proficient at managing their time and priorities effectively, working independently and creatively. Read the full Job Description and Person Specification at <https://www.bccs.org.uk/who-we-are/work-us/> Applications should be returned to Julie Abbott, Head of Voluntary Income at jabbott@bccs.org.uk before the application deadline of Friday 12th May at midday.

Loyola Preparatory, a Catholic boy's school in Buckhurst Hill, is looking to appoint a **Deputy Headteacher** to join their small and friendly school in September 2023. For further information regarding this opportunity please see the TES jobs website. The closing date for applications is by 10am on 10th May 2023. Interested candidates are invited to contact the School Secretary, Mrs Long on 020 8504 7372 or by email to office@loyola.essex.sch.uk to arrange a tour of the school.

St Bernard's Girls Catholic High School. Are you an enthusiastic and inspiring LSA with the skills, confidence, creativity and energy to make a positive impact on the lives of our students?

You will be joining a successful, friendly and supportive department within a high performing school, supporting students from Y7 – Y13 with a range of special educational needs. Applications are welcomed from both experienced LSAs and those new to support.

Years 7-11 with a co-educational mixed Sixth Form. Our school is ranked one of the top schools in Southend, and we are in the top 20% of schools across the country for our progress with students and our outcomes. We offer our students an environment where they can excel academically, personally and spiritually. It is a warm and welcoming school where our Catholic values underpin our day to day life.

All new staff are supported within the positive ethos of this happy and high performing school, and to this end all staff complete an applicable induction training programme. The community at St Bernard's welcome applications from teachers of all faiths or none.

Please complete the final teaching application form found on our website www.stbernardswestcliff.org.uk under School Information/Vacancies – please note we do not accept CVs

Closing Date: 28 May 2023, 9.00am

Interviews: tbc We do reserve the right to close this advertisement early if we receive a high volume of suitable applications. Please contact the HR department for further information on recruitment@stbernards.southend.sch.uk

The Governing Body is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff to share in this commitment.

OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS

Thanks to all who continue to support our parish financially.

QR Codes

Please see on the bench in front of you in church, and at the end of this newsletter. The **QR codes** you can use with your Smart Phones. Giving electronically prevents too much cash lying around and can be of great help. If you can use this way of donating, please do so, it would be a great help. Alternatively, please see QR codes in the church porch. Thank you.

GIFT AID If you are a taxpayer and donate to the parish online or via bank transfer, it's worth a reminder that we could get **an extra 25%** on your donations if you sign up to the Gift Aid scheme.

Please contact Sandra our Gift Aid Co-ordinator (olorgiftaid@hotmail.com / **01268 772998**) **if you have any questions.** Thank you

Donate with Gift Aid

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If you wish to Gift Aid your donation please scan the codes in this section after reading the declaration.

Please treat as gift aid donation, all qualifying gifts of money made from the date of this declaration. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that, if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations, it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Donate £3.00	Donate £5.00	Donate £10.00	Donate £20.00
			

Donate without Gift Aid

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Holy Communion from the Chalice

The Bishops of England and Wales have said that Communion from the Chalice—the Precious Blood—may be resumed from Easter. Our Bishop has stated that this is a permission and not obligatory. The Chalice was suspended at the start of the pandemic to prevent the spread of the virus. Many of us are understandably still being vigilant with regard to further contagion, especially if we are vulnerable. The teaching of the Church is that when we receive Holy Communion, Christ is present whole and entire—Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity—under either kind. By receiving under one species we do not receive less of Christ or less grace. Receiving from the Chalice obviously emphasises the sacramental sign—of eating and drinking the Body and Blood of The Lord. The counsel we are receiving is that we should reintroduce the Chalice prudently and cautiously once it is clear that the majority of parishioners are content that Covid, Influenza and other diseases are not communicable. It would seem unwise to reintroduce this practice and then have to withdraw it with the approach of winter. I have communicated this with our extra-ordinary ministers of Holy Communion to ensure that they feel satisfied that this is once again safe, since they will need to purify and consume what remains in the Chalice; I am not happy asking others to do something that I, for sure, would not be prepared to do myself, given the potential attendant health risks. I, too, am fairly vulnerable. The Southend Deanery has also discussed this and have jointly made this decision too for their Parishes.

The question of the possibility of Intinction (when the Host is dipped into the Precious Blood so that a communicant receives both together) has been raised. The Bishops' Conference has decided to affirm the practice found in *Celebrating the Mass* which states that this form of the reception of Holy Communion “is not recommended in England and Wales.” It restricts the possibility of the communicant to receive the host reverently in their hands. Likewise, communicants are not permitted to receive Holy Communion by “self-intinction” where having received the Sacred Host in the hand, they proceed to the Precious Blood and “dip” the host themselves into the chalice. Sacraments are never taken, but received, and the gesture of “self-intinction” denies this reality.

I hope this helps.

Thank you. Fr. Paul

OUR LADY OF RANSOM



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Retrouvaille: A Programme for

Help Your Marriage – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage. Tens of thousands of couples headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. The programme helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. It helps them through difficult times whether they are disillusioned or in deep misery. There is no group therapy or group work. For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the next programme commencing with a Virtual weekend on 6 - 9 July 2023 or a Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 13-15 October 2023, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 or email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

Clare Priory Pilgrimage, Sunday 14th May

11.30am Rosary and procession to the Shrine; 12.15pm Service of Reconciliation and Adoration; 2.15pm Mass of the Day. Further information contact: 01787 277326.
Email: clarepriory@clarepriory.net Clare Priory, Clare, Suffolk CO10 8NX
Website: www.clarepriory.org.uk

Praying for the unborn and women facing crisis pregnancies

Join Lord Alton on a sponsored walk from where Tolkien wrote The Lord of the Rings
There will be two sponsored walks in support of Right To Life UK in May.
The Christian Heritage Centre, based at Stonyhurst College, Lancashire, has organised a sponsored walk along the Tolkien Trail on Monday 8 May. Discounted accommodation will be available at Theodore House, Stonyhurst.
The Burnley Knights of St Columba and Catenian Circle 154 have also organised a 10km sponsored walk for Right To Life UK on Monday 29 May.
For further details on how you can join either of the walks visit:
www.righttolife.org.uk/sponsoredwalks

SION COMMUNITY CHARISMATIC TEACHING WEEKEND

From 6pm Friday 19th May to 2pm Sunday 21st May 2023. Theme: 'Living the Prophetic Lifestyle' (part of the 'Moving in the Anointing' series). This weekend is a great follow-up to 'Life in the Spirit' seminars and an opportunity to grow in the Gifts and Charisms of the Holy Spirit. Guest Speaker: Dominic McDermott. Cost: £120 residential, £80 non-residential. Book early as we have limited spaces. To book a place or for more info, visit:
<https://sioncommunity.churchsuite.com/events/f8v3emks>

March for Life UK

Save The Date; The Annual London March for Life will take place on Saturday 2nd September.

THE THRESHOLDS OF HOPE EASTER TALKS will explore what it means to have an intimate friendship with Christ. They will take place on Wednesdays 10th, 17th and 24th of May at St Francis of Assisi, Stratford, E15 1NS from 7.30 - 9.00 p.m. The first talk, "*Calling on the name of Jesus*," will be given by Fr Martin Boland, the Dean of Brentwood Cathedral. All very welcome..

GIDEA PARK STUDY DAY ON POPE BENEDICT AND THE LITURGY

On Saturday 20th May, from 11.00 to 13.00 BST, Fr Vincent Twomey SVD, student and friend of Pope Benedict XVI, will speak on 'The Liturgical Vision of Pope Benedict'. The event will not be in person but live streamed from Ireland on www.whatgoodnews.org. Fr Twomey has recently produced 'The Dynamics of Liturgy: Joseph Ratzinger's Theology of Liturgy', published by Ignatius Press. Further details of the event are to be found on the attached flyer and on the website www.whatgoodnews.org A recording of the study day will be made available subsequently on the website.

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Vacancies:

Hospitality Manager at Walsingham House at Abbotswick. Walsingham House are seeking to appoint a friendly, reliable and trustworthy Hospitality Manager. The postholder will be responsible for welcoming groups wishing to use the retreat centre, being a point of contact and managing the practicalities of the day. For more information please see www.bcys.net or email Claire Bailey for more information (clairebailey@brcdt.org) The closing date for applications is midday on Friday 12th May 2023.

Primary School Link Adviser

The Diocese of Brentwood is seeking to appoint a Primary School Link Adviser who is a practising Catholic, to support the Diocesan Board of Education and its family of schools. This is likely to be a part-time post of either 3 or 4 days a week, however, consideration will also be given to applicants who are seeking a full-time or secondment opportunity. The Primary Link Adviser will report to the Diocesan Director of Education and Deputy Director.

Further details and an application form can be obtained here:

<https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/primary-link-adviser-vacancy/>

The closing date for applications is midday on Friday 28th April 2023

Interviews will be held on Tuesday 2nd May 2023

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society is looking for a **Fundraising and Partnerships Manager** to join their team. This is an excellent opportunity for an enthusiastic and motivated individual to gain valuable experience in fundraising for an established and expanding charity. The Fundraising and Partnership Manager will be

required to generate income from new and existing fundraising activities and to develop and manage relationships across key support audiences. Applicants must have excellent organisational skills and be proficient at managing their time and priorities effectively, working independently and creatively. Read the full Job Description and Person Specification at <https://www.bccs.org.uk/who-we-are/work-us/> Applications should be returned to Julie Abbott, Head of Voluntary Income at jabbott@bccs.org.uk before the application deadline of Friday 12th May at midday.

Loyola Preparatory, a Catholic boy's school in Buckhurst Hill, is looking to appoint a **Deputy Headteacher** to join their small and friendly school in September 2023. For further information regarding this opportunity please see the TES jobs website. The closing date for applications is by 10am on 10th May 2023. Interested candidates are invited to contact the School Secretary, Mrs Long on 020 8504 7372 or by email to office@loyola.essex.sch.uk to arrange a tour of the school.

St Bernard's Girls Catholic High School. Are you an enthusiastic and inspiring LSA with the skills, confidence, creativity and energy to make a positive impact on the lives of our students?

You will be joining a successful, friendly and supportive department within a high performing school, supporting students from Y7 – Y13 with a range of special educational needs. Applications are welcomed from both experienced LSAs and those new to support.

Years 7-11 with a co-educational mixed Sixth Form. Our school is ranked one of the top schools in Southend, and we are in the top 20% of schools across the country for our progress with students and our outcomes. We offer our students an environment where they can excel academically, personally and spiritually. It is a warm and welcoming school where our Catholic values underpin our day to day life.

All new staff are supported within the positive ethos of this happy and high performing school, and to this end all staff complete an applicable induction training programme. The community at St Bernard's welcome applications from teachers of all faiths or none.

Please complete the final teaching application form found on our website www.stbernardswestcliff.org.uk under School Information/Vacancies – please note we do not accept CVs

Closing Date: 28 May 2023, 9.00am

Interviews: tbc We do reserve the right to close this advertisement early if we receive a high volume of suitable applications. Please contact the HR department for further information on recruitment@stbernards.southend.sch.uk

The Governing Body is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff to share in this commitment.

OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS

Thanks to all who continue to support our parish financially.

QR Codes

Please see on the bench in front of you in church, and at the end of this newsletter. The **QR codes** you can use with your Smart Phones. Giving electronically prevents too much cash lying around and can be of great help. If you can use this way of donating, please do so, it would be a great help. Alternatively, please see QR codes in the church porch. Thank you.

GIFT AID If you are a taxpayer and donate to the parish online or via bank transfer, it's worth a reminder that we could get **an extra 25%** on your donations if you sign up to the Gift Aid scheme.

Please contact Sandra our Gift Aid Co-ordinator (olorgiftaid@hotmail.com / **01268 772998**) **if you have any questions.** Thank you

Donate with Gift Aid

giftaid it





If you wish to Gift Aid your donation please scan the codes in this section after reading the declaration.

Please treat as gift aid donation, all qualifying gifts of money made from the date of this declaration. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that, if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations, it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Donate £3.00	Donate £5.00	Donate £10.00	Donate £20.00
			

Donate without Gift Aid

If you are unable to donate with Gift Aid then please use the codes below

Donate £3.00	Donate £5.00	Donate £10.00	Donate £20.00
			

Holy Communion from the Chalice

The Bishops of England and Wales have said that Communion from the Chalice—the Precious Blood—may be resumed from Easter. Our Bishop has stated that this is a permission and not obligatory. The Chalice was suspended at the start of the pandemic to prevent the spread of the virus. Many of us are understandably still being vigilant with regard to further contagion, especially if we are vulnerable. The teaching of the Church is that when we receive Holy Communion, Christ is present whole and entire—Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity—under either kind. By receiving under one species we do not receive less of Christ or less grace. Receiving from the Chalice obviously emphasises the sacramental sign—of eating and drinking the Body and Blood of The Lord. The counsel we are receiving is that we should reintroduce the Chalice prudently and cautiously once it is clear that the majority of parishioners are content that Covid, Influenza and other diseases are not communicable. It would seem unwise to reintroduce this practice and then have to withdraw it with the approach of winter. I have communicated this with our extra-ordinary ministers of Holy Communion to ensure that they feel satisfied that this is once again safe, since they will need to purify and consume what remains in the Chalice; I am not happy asking others to do something that I, for sure, would not be prepared to do myself, given the potential attendant health risks. I, too, am fairly vulnerable. The Southend Deanery has also discussed this and have jointly made this decision too for their Parishes.

The question of the possibility of Intinction (when the Host is dipped into the Precious Blood so that a communicant receives both together) has been raised. The Bishops' Conference has decided to affirm the practice found in *Celebrating the Mass* which states that this form of the reception of Holy Communion “is not recommended in England and Wales.” It restricts the possibility of the communicant to receive the host reverently in their hands. Likewise, communicants are not permitted to receive Holy Communion by “self-intinction” where having received the Sacred Host in the hand, they proceed to the Precious Blood and “dip” the host themselves into the chalice. Sacraments are never taken, but received, and the gesture of “self-intinction” denies this reality.

I hope this helps.

Thank you. Fr. Paul

OUR LADY OF RANSOM



30th April 2023 Easter 4A (Good Shepherd Sunday) Psalter Week 4

The dinner party was going well. The famous actor was cajoled by the gathering to give a soliloquy. So, with great eloquence, intonation and diction, he recited *The Lord's My Shepherd*... On finishing, the gathering gave him a great round of applause. Now, an elderly priest also at the party was also cajoled in to reciting the same thing, Psalm 23. Nervous, yet confident, with great reverence and obvious inner conviction, he shakily recited the same thing. On finishing, with a slight pregnant pause, the crowd similarly applauded him. Following the applause, the actor came back and asked the assembled party whether anyone had spotted a fundamental difference between the two of their recitals.

To the confused group he explained with obvious humility, "Yes, I am a professionally trained actor, I know how to deliver recitals and monologues, I know Psalm 23 - *The Lord's My Shepherd*..." "Yes", he said, "I know the psalm, but Father here clearly knows the Shepherd".

Major major difference. We can know our prayers, say them by heart, and even say them many times. Very good - but do we know the Shepherd? Jesus is often seen admonishing people who think they know Him because they 'say' lots of prayers. And they do not appear to know Him at all. We are called to know and experience the Shepherd - for ourselves. Like last week - no-one can do this for us.

To listen to his voice alone. So we see the importance of silent prayer. How can we even hope to sense His voice if we are continually babbling, using lots of words or thinking lots of things?

Many voices compete for our attention. But there will be one, deep down in our deepest intuitions that we will simply know is Our Lord. But if our mental energies are taken up with thinking and even more thinking, saying lots of things, reading this and reading that, we can never really sense the voice of the one true Shepherd? The voice is found at our deepest intuitions. So we are called to silent prayer, and make it a regular practice so we get in touch with these deeper intuitions. It is surely the finest way to 'discern our vocation (Our Lord's calling)' in life. This is today's challenge - the 'Good Shepherd'.

Yes, to 'know' our prayers is one thing - to 'know' the Shepherd is quite another. Our deepest intuitions will always bear out the voice – the presence of the Shepherd, where we just know we are being led to truth, forgiveness, building each other up, peace and love. Fulfilment. Any negative energies such as revenge, greed, jealousy - we know them - is simply not the true shepherd, and we remain empty, unfulfilled, angry and frustrated. In fact, all alternative voices leave us feeling similar. Shall we make trying to listen for the one true voice, the one presence, our regular practice? Wouldn't that make us and the world around us somewhat happier and a better place to live?

First Reading: Acts 2:14, 36-41

Psalm: Psalm 22(23)

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:20-25

Gospel: John 10:1-10



MASS INTENTIONS	
Saturday 29th April	St Catherine of Siena
5.30pm	Irena Owczarek RIP (Anniv) (Krolikowski Family)
Sunday 30th April	Fourth Sunday of Easter
8.00am	John McMorroo RIP (Caroline & Steve Bunker)
10.00am	Parish Community
Monday 1st May	
9.30am	Fr Henry Young RIP
Tuesday 2nd May	St Athanasius
9.30am	Private Intention
Wednesday 3rd May	SS Philip and James
10.00am	Eva Murray RIP (Kathleen Murray)
Thursday 4th May	The English Martyrs
9.30am	Patricia Cotter RIP (Pat & Mary Rickard)
Friday 5th May	
9.30am	King Charles' Intentions
Saturday 6th May	St John Payne
5.30pm	Jack Gardiner RIP (Joan Gardiner)
Sunday 7th May	Fifth Sunday of Easter
8.00am Mass	Prayer Board Intentions
10.00am Mass	Parish Community and First Holy Communion
	Children

All Masses and Church Services are now Live Streamed.

To take part please go to <https://stream.seccomgroup.com/channel/olor>

Masses can be watched "live" or later as a recording.

<p>PARISH PRIEST Father Paul Fox 50 London Hill, Rayleigh Essex SS6 7HP 01268 38.24.99 www.olorchurch.org email: rayleigh@dioceseofbrentwood.org</p>	<p>Public Mass times: Saturdays 5.30pm Sundays 8am & 10.00am Mondays 9.30am Wednesdays 10.00am Thursdays & Fridays 9.30am <i>Please be aware - Times and days of weekday Masses are subject to change.</i></p>
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Sacrament of Reconciliation: 4.30pm – 5pm Saturday evenings (not in the confessional box).

Our Parish is part of The Brentwood Diocesan Trust, Registered Charity Number 234092



ANNIVERSARIES †

Kindly pray for Terry Askem, Vera Cooling, Fr. Andrew Dorricott, and Michael O'Flanagan, whose anniversaries occur about this time. May they rest in peace.

Receiving from the Chalice. *We have now re-introduced the Chalice. Please feel under NO obligation to receive from it. Please, let no-one push you in to either receiving or not receiving. It should be your own decision for the reasons mentioned at the end of this newsletter. It is on offer for those who wish to receive the precious Blood as well as the Sacred Host. We will attempt to offer the Chalice at all the weekend Masses.*

Mass 9.30am on Tuesday this week.

Mass on Friday at 9.30am will be offered for King Charles. There will be extra prayers during this Mass regarding the coronation and the future of his reign. Please help yourselves to prayer cards in the church porch.

This Sunday (30th) is Good Shepherd Sunday - World Day of Prayer for Vocations.

Please pray for vocations to the priesthood everywhere and for those currently training for the priesthood. (Please also pray for all who are choosing a vocation rather than a career). The second collection supports the education and formation of our seminarians training for mpriesthood. Please help yourselves to prayer cards in the church porch.

First Holy Communion Masses

Please note that these will happen at the 10am Masses next Sunday, May 7th when 14 of our children will receive Our Lord's Body for the first time; and the following Sunday, May 14th when 12 children will do the same. Please keep our First Holy Communion children and their families in your prayers.



First Holy Communion Rehearsal

First Holy Communion Rehearsal is on Wednesday 3rd May at the church. 6pm till 7.30pm. Parents and children are to attend.

NEWSLETTER ITEMS:

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11.30am Rosary and procession to the Shrine; 12.15pm Service of Reconciliation and Adoration; 2.15pm Mass of the Day. Further information contact: 01787 277326.
Email: clarepriory@clarepriory.net Clare Priory, Clare, Suffolk CO10 8NX
Website: www.clarepriory.org.uk

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St Bernard's Girls Catholic High School. Are you an enthusiastic and inspiring LSA with the skills, confidence, creativity and energy to make a positive impact on the lives of our students?

You will be joining a successful, friendly and supportive department within a high performing school, supporting students from Y7 – Y13 with a range of special educational needs. Applications are welcomed from both experienced LSAs and those new to support.

Years 7-11 with a co-educational mixed Sixth Form. Our school is ranked one of the top schools in Southend, and we are in the top 20% of schools across the country for our progress with students and our outcomes. We offer our students an environment where they can excel academically, personally and spiritually. It is a warm and welcoming school where our Catholic values underpin our day to day life.

All new staff are supported within the positive ethos of this happy and high performing school, and to this end all staff complete an applicable induction training programme. The community at St Bernard's welcome applications from teachers of all faiths or none.

Please complete the final teaching application form found on our website www.stbernardswestcliff.org.uk under School Information/Vacancies – please note we do not accept CVs

Closing Date: 28 May 2023, 9.00am

Interviews: tbc We do reserve the right to close this advertisement early if we receive a high volume of suitable applications. Please contact the HR department for further information on recruitment@stbernards.southend.sch.uk

The Governing Body is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff to share in this commitment.

OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS

Thanks to all who continue to support our parish financially.

QR Codes

Please see on the bench in front of you in church, and at the end of this newsletter. The **QR codes** you can use with your Smart Phones. Giving electronically prevents too much cash lying around and can be of great help. If you can use this way of donating, please do so, it would be a great help. Alternatively, please see QR codes in the church porch. Thank you.

GIFT AID If you are a taxpayer and donate to the parish online or via bank transfer, it's worth a reminder that we could get **an extra 25%** on your donations if you sign up to the Gift Aid scheme.

Please contact Sandra our Gift Aid Co-ordinator (olorgiftaid@hotmail.com / **01268 772998**) **if you have any questions.** Thank you

Donate with Gift Aid

giftaid it





If you wish to Gift Aid your donation please scan the codes in this section after reading the declaration.

Please treat as gift aid donation, all qualifying gifts of money made from the date of this declaration. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that, if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations, it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Donate £3.00	Donate £5.00	Donate £10.00	Donate £20.00
			

Donate without Gift Aid

If you are unable to donate with Gift Aid then please use the codes below

Donate £3.00	Donate £5.00	Donate £10.00	Donate £20.00
			

Holy Communion from the Chalice

The Bishops of England and Wales have said that Communion from the Chalice—the Precious Blood—may be resumed from Easter. Our Bishop has stated that this is a permission and not obligatory. The Chalice was suspended at the start of the pandemic to prevent the spread of the virus. Many of us are understandably still being vigilant with regard to further contagion, especially if we are vulnerable. The teaching of the Church is that when we receive Holy Communion, Christ is present whole and entire—Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity—under either kind. By receiving under one species we do not receive less of Christ or less grace. Receiving from the Chalice obviously emphasises the sacramental sign—of eating and drinking the Body and Blood of The Lord. The counsel we are receiving is that we should reintroduce the Chalice prudently and cautiously once it is clear that the majority of parishioners are content that Covid, Influenza and other diseases are not communicable. It would seem unwise to reintroduce this practice and then have to withdraw it with the approach of winter. I have communicated this with our extra-ordinary ministers of Holy Communion to ensure that they feel satisfied that this is once again safe, since they will need to purify and consume what remains in the Chalice; I am not happy asking others to do something that I, for sure, would not be prepared to do myself, given the potential attendant health risks. I, too, am fairly vulnerable. The Southend Deanery has also discussed this and have jointly made this decision too for their Parishes.

The question of the possibility of Intinction (when the Host is dipped into the Precious Blood so that a communicant receives both together) has been raised. The Bishops' Conference has decided to affirm the practice found in *Celebrating the Mass* which states that this form of the reception of Holy Communion “is not recommended in England and Wales.” It restricts the possibility of the communicant to receive the host reverently in their hands. Likewise, communicants are not permitted to receive Holy Communion by “self-intinction” where having received the Sacred Host in the hand, they proceed to the Precious Blood and “dip” the host themselves into the chalice. Sacraments are never taken, but received, and the gesture of “self-intinction” denies this reality.

I hope this helps.

Thank you. Fr. Paul

OUR LADY OF RANSOM



30th April 2023 Easter 4A (Good Shepherd Sunday) Psalter Week 4

The dinner party was going well. The famous actor was cajoled by the gathering to give a soliloquy. So, with great eloquence, intonation and diction, he recited *The Lord's My Shepherd*... On finishing, the gathering gave him a great round of applause. Now, an elderly priest also at the party was also cajoled in to reciting the same thing, Psalm 23. Nervous, yet confident, with great reverence and obvious inner conviction, he shakily recited the same thing. On finishing, with a slight pregnant pause, the crowd similarly applauded him. Following the applause, the actor came back and asked the assembled party whether anyone had spotted a fundamental difference between the two of their recitals.

To the confused group he explained with obvious humility, "Yes, I am a professionally trained actor, I know how to deliver recitals and monologues, I know Psalm 23 - *The Lord's My Shepherd*..." "Yes", he said, "I know the psalm, but Father here clearly knows the Shepherd".

Major major difference. We can know our prayers, say them by heart, and even say them many times. Very good - but do we know the Shepherd? Jesus is often seen admonishing people who think they know Him because they 'say' lots of prayers. And they do not appear to know Him at all. We are called to know and experience the Shepherd - for ourselves. Like last week - no-one can do this for us.

To listen to his voice alone. So we see the importance of silent prayer. How can we even hope to sense His voice if we are continually babbling, using lots of words or thinking lots of things?

Many voices compete for our attention. But there will be one, deep down in our deepest intuitions that we will simply know is Our Lord. But if our mental energies are taken up with thinking and even more thinking, saying lots of things, reading this and reading that, we can never really sense the voice of the one true Shepherd? The voice is found at our deepest intuitions. So we are called to silent prayer, and make it a regular practice so we get in touch with these deeper intuitions. It is surely the finest way to 'discern our vocation (Our Lord's calling)' in life. This is today's challenge - the 'Good Shepherd'.

Yes, to 'know' our prayers is one thing - to 'know' the Shepherd is quite another. Our deepest intuitions will always bear out the voice – the presence of the Shepherd, where we just know we are being led to truth, forgiveness, building each other up, peace and love. Fulfilment. Any negative energies such as revenge, greed, jealousy - we know them - is simply not the true shepherd, and we remain empty, unfulfilled, angry and frustrated. In fact, all alternative voices leave us feeling similar. Shall we make trying to listen for the one true voice, the one presence, our regular practice? Wouldn't that make us and the world around us somewhat happier and a better place to live?

First Reading: Acts 2:14, 36-41

Psalm: Psalm 22(23)

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:20-25

Gospel: John 10:1-10



MASS INTENTIONS	
Saturday 29th April	St Catherine of Siena
5.30pm	Irena Owczarek RIP (Anniv) (Krolikowski Family)
Sunday 30th April	Fourth Sunday of Easter
8.00am	John McMorroo RIP (Caroline & Steve Bunker)
10.00am	Parish Community
Monday 1st May	
9.30am	Fr Henry Young RIP
Tuesday 2nd May	St Athanasius
9.30am	Private Intention
Wednesday 3rd May	SS Philip and James
10.00am	Eva Murray RIP (Kathleen Murray)
Thursday 4th May	The English Martyrs
9.30am	Patricia Cotter RIP (Pat & Mary Rickard)
Friday 5th May	
9.30am	King Charles' Intentions
Saturday 6th May	St John Payne
5.30pm	Jack Gardiner RIP (Joan Gardiner)
Sunday 7th May	Fifth Sunday of Easter
8.00am Mass	Prayer Board Intentions
10.00am Mass	Parish Community and First Holy Communion Children

All Masses and Church Services are now Live Streamed.

To take part please go to <https://stream.seccomgroup.com/channel/olor>

Masses can be watched "live" or later as a recording.

<p>PARISH PRIEST Father Paul Fox 50 London Hill, Rayleigh Essex SS6 7HP 01268 38.24.99 www.olorchurch.org email: rayleigh@dioceseofbrentwood.org</p>	<p>Public Mass times: Saturdays 5.30pm Sundays 8am & 10.00am Mondays 9.30am Wednesdays 10.00am Thursdays & Fridays 9.30am <i>Please be aware - Times and days of weekday Masses are subject to change.</i></p>
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Sacrament of Reconciliation: 4.30pm – 5pm Saturday evenings (not in the confessional box).

Our Parish is part of The Brentwood Diocesan Trust, Registered Charity Number 234092



ANNIVERSARIES †

Kindly pray for Terry Askem, Vera Cooling, Fr. Andrew Dorricott, and Michael O'Flanagan, whose anniversaries occur about this time. May they rest in peace.

Receiving from the Chalice. *We have now re-introduced the Chalice. Please feel under NO obligation to receive from it. Please, let no-one push you in to either receiving or not receiving. It should be your own decision for the reasons mentioned at the end of this newsletter. It is on offer for those who wish to receive the precious Blood as well as the Sacred Host. We will attempt to offer the Chalice at all the weekend Masses.*

Mass 9.30am on Tuesday this week.

Mass on Friday at 9.30am will be offered for King Charles. There will be extra prayers during this Mass regarding the coronation and the future of his reign. Please help yourselves to prayer cards in the church porch.

This Sunday (30th) is Good Shepherd Sunday - World Day of Prayer for Vocations.

Please pray for vocations to the priesthood everywhere and for those currently training for the priesthood. (Please also pray for all who are choosing a vocation rather than a career). The second collection supports the education and formation of our seminarians training for mpriesthood. Please help yourselves to prayer cards in the church porch.

First Holy Communion Masses

Please note that these will happen at the 10am Masses next Sunday, May 7th when 14 of our children will receive Our Lord's Body for the first time; and the following Sunday, May 14th when 12 children will do the same. Please keep our First Holy Communion children and their families in your prayers.



First Holy Communion Rehearsal

First Holy Communion Rehearsal is on Wednesday 3rd May at the church. 6pm till 7.30pm. Parents and children are to attend.

NEWSLETTER ITEMS:

Please ensure all items for the parish newsletter are submitted to the office by **11am on Thursdays** at the latest.

Sunday Coffee Mornings

If you are interested in hosting a Coffee Morning after 10am Sunday Masses to raise money for a charity of your choice, please contact the parish office.



Kids' Bulletin

A children's version of the gospel is available weekly. This can be accessed on the following website: www.thekidsbulletin.com and is aimed at primary school children. It can be downloaded and printed out.

Children's Liturgy- Dates and news

Please note dates for children's liturgy over the next few weeks:

30th April - Children's Liturgy (2 groups)

7th May- NO Children's Liturgy- First Holy Communion Mass

14th May- NO Children's Liturgy- First Holy Communion Mass

21st May- Children's Liturgy (2 groups)

Exciting news - on the 30th April and 21st May we are trialling running 2 groups, so that we are able to tailor our exploration of the Gospel message to 2 separate age groups. Children will come to the session in the usual way, and those in school years 3-6 will continue through the Bethany room to the sacristy, with a leader. The younger group will remain for children ages 3 to year 2.



KNIGHTS SPONSORED WALK

As lay 100 project, the Rayleigh Knights Council 456, are walking from OLOR Church to St Teresa's Church Rochford on Friday 5th May and Saturday 6th May. This is part of a sponsored relay from church to church around the diocese, our leg being from Rayleigh to Rochford. Donations will be greatly appreciated. Please take an envelope as you leave church and return your donation to the presbytery. Thank you.

Knights of St. Columba Competitions 2023

EASTER YOUTH AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Submission Date is Friday, 19th May 2023

At present there are a number of competitions for young people such as:

Painting, Photography, Essay, and Prayer Competitions for different age groups: If anyone would like details, they may contact me and I will forward all the details. Please email:

marting.doyle@blueyonder.co.uk Bro Martin Doyle Action and Youth Officer Council 456 KSC



SVP Spring Tea Party – Thank You. The members of the SVP, Rayleigh, would like to express a huge thank you to all those who helped in any way to make the SVP Spring Tea a wonderful success last Saturday afternoon. Whether through donations of cakes, raffle prizes, catering, waiting on tables or transport, these all contributed to the success of the afternoon. Thank you and God Bless.

Westminster Cathedral Choristers. Tuesday 2nd May at 6pm

The Westminster Cathedral Choristers are coming to Brentwood Cathedral to sing. This will take the form of a Mass and a brief Recital, together lasting no more than an hour and a half. Seating could be reasonably limited, therefore, please email

ninahow@dioceseofbrentwood.org to advice if you will be attending.

Legion of Mary – please read

Help needed with Meals, Transport and Accommodation. Can you help?

The Peregrinatio Pro Christo (PPC) Committee (the HQ of the Legion of Mary) will be coming to our parish, from the 15th to the 22nd July 2023. It will be a team of 12 Legionaries. Can we offer accommodation for these 12 people in various homes? Meals and Transport?

Otherwise the accommodation could prove very expensive on the team. Some financial assistance can be offered. The individual members are happy to sort out some of their own food. Please let Fr. Paul, or Isobel Kennedy (01702 230578) know if you can help. Thank you. The Parish has assisted before, can we do so again?

Knitting and Dementia

Do you like knitting? Do you want to support Dementia? The council is currently working on Dementia Action Week for May 15-22nd in Rayleigh, and are asking if you would like to knit in order to assist with forget me nots to decorate Rayleigh High St. If you are interested, please call Elizabeth on 07803 139927. Thank you.

EDEL QUINN PILGRIMAGE TO AYLESFORD, KENT. SATURDAY 13th MAY 2023

All parishioners, their families and friends are invited to join us for our annual pilgrimage to the shrine at Aylesford. There will be Mass at noon, Rosary procession around the grounds in the afternoon and finishing with Benediction. Confessions are available, book shop etc. Bring your own picnic lunch or buy refreshments there. A coach has been booked – pickup point in Rayleigh is the bus stop outside M&S in Eastwood Rd. Pick up time 9.30am. Cost of coach place £15. To reserve a place please contact Isobel Kennedy 07795 821705 as soon as possible.



Caritas Networking Day

Interested in the Catholic response to homelessness, welcoming refugees and migrants, assisting with the Cost of Living Crisis, or tackling the causes and effects of climate change? Come to the first Caritas Brentwood networking day, **Saturday 10th June, 10am – 2.30pm, at Sacred Heart of Mary School, Upminster** (on C2C & District lines, close to M25 & A127). Hear **national speaker Raymond Friel, OBE**, Chief Executive of the Catholic Social Action network. This day is a chance to be sustained, share ideas and good practices with people from parishes across Essex and East London and hear about charities and resources available. Details and Registration (free!) at www.caritasbrentwood.org/network

Homes for Ukraine Matching Service

Caritas Social Action Network, in partnership with St John of God Hospitaller Services, an international Catholic charity with many services for the vulnerable in the UK and Ireland, is matching Ukrainian people displaced by war with people in the Catholic community, willing to host them in their homes for six months. If you have room in your home and heart to consider welcoming a stranger, then we'd love to hear from you. Please visit <https://sjog-homesforukraine.uk/> for more information.

The Brentwood Catholic Children's Society is inviting parishioners across the Diocese to join in with their annual 'Relay 100' community event this May and June. This initiative is an opportunity to remind our community about the work we do, to reach families who may need our support and to raise some funds through sponsored walks, runs or cycles. We are looking for 100 individuals or groups to complete a 'leg' of our relay around the diocese; we have routes of varying distances so there is something to suit all abilities. Can you help us? To find out more, please contact Damian Dillon: ddillon@bccs.org.uk / 07912 308000 or visit <https://www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events/> and click on 'Relay 100 Sponsored Walks' to read more about this event.

Permanent Diaconate Event with the Bishop, 20th May 2023

Saturday 20th May 2023, 11.00 (Mass) to 14.30 at St Anne Line Catholic Church, 7 Grove Crescent, South Woodford, London, E18 2JR

'Come and See' event on the Permanent Diaconate with Bishop Alan, for all those wishing to learn more about the ministry of deacons in the Church and in the Diocese. Of particular interest to men considering a call to serve as deacons, and to parish priests seeking to promote vocations within their parishes. For further information please contact kencarleton@dioceseofbrentwood.org.



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giftaid it





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Donate £3.00	Donate £5.00	Donate £10.00	Donate £20.00
			

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I hope this helps.

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OUR LADY OF RANSOM



30th April 2023 Easter 4A (Good Shepherd Sunday) Psalter Week 4

The dinner party was going well. The famous actor was cajoled by the gathering to give a soliloquy. So, with great eloquence, intonation and diction, he recited *The Lord's My Shepherd*... On finishing, the gathering gave him a great round of applause. Now, an elderly priest also at the party was also cajoled in to reciting the same thing, Psalm 23. Nervous, yet confident, with great reverence and obvious inner conviction, he shakily recited the same thing. On finishing, with a slight pregnant pause, the crowd similarly applauded him. Following the applause, the actor came back and asked the assembled party whether anyone had spotted a fundamental difference between the two of their recitals.

To the confused group he explained with obvious humility, "Yes, I am a professionally trained actor, I know how to deliver recitals and monologues, I know Psalm 23 - *The Lord's My Shepherd*..." "Yes", he said, "I know the psalm, but Father here clearly knows the Shepherd".

Major major difference. We can know our prayers, say them by heart, and even say them many times. Very good - but do we know the Shepherd? Jesus is often seen admonishing people who think they know Him because they 'say' lots of prayers. And they do not appear to know Him at all. We are called to know and experience the Shepherd - for ourselves. Like last week - no-one can do this for us.

To listen to his voice alone. So we see the importance of silent prayer. How can we even hope to sense His voice if we are continually babbling, using lots of words or thinking lots of things?

Many voices compete for our attention. But there will be one, deep down in our deepest intuitions that we will simply know is Our Lord. But if our mental energies are taken up with thinking and even more thinking, saying lots of things, reading this and reading that, we can never really sense the voice of the one true Shepherd? The voice is found at our deepest intuitions. So we are called to silent prayer, and make it a regular practice so we get in touch with these deeper intuitions. It is surely the finest way to 'discern our vocation (Our Lord's calling)' in life. This is today's challenge - the 'Good Shepherd'.

Yes, to 'know' our prayers is one thing - to 'know' the Shepherd is quite another. Our deepest intuitions will always bear out the voice – the presence of the Shepherd, where we just know we are being led to truth, forgiveness, building each other up, peace and love. Fulfilment. Any negative energies such as revenge, greed, jealousy - we know them - is simply not the true shepherd, and we remain empty, unfulfilled, angry and frustrated. In fact, all alternative voices leave us feeling similar. Shall we make trying to listen for the one true voice, the one presence, our regular practice? Wouldn't that make us and the world around us somewhat happier and a better place to live?

First Reading: Acts 2:14, 36-41

Psalm: Psalm 22(23)

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:20-25

Gospel: John 10:1-10



MASS INTENTIONS	
Saturday 29th April	St Catherine of Siena
5.30pm	Irena Owczarek RIP (Anniv) (Krolikowski Family)
Sunday 30th April	Fourth Sunday of Easter
8.00am	John McMorroo RIP (Caroline & Steve Bunker)
10.00am	Parish Community
Monday 1st May	
9.30am	Fr Henry Young RIP
Tuesday 2nd May	St Athanasius
9.30am	Private Intention
Wednesday 3rd May	SS Philip and James
10.00am	Eva Murray RIP (Kathleen Murray)
Thursday 4th May	The English Martyrs
9.30am	Patricia Cotter RIP (Pat & Mary Rickard)
Friday 5th May	
9.30am	King Charles' Intentions
Saturday 6th May	St John Payne
5.30pm	Jack Gardiner RIP (Joan Gardiner)
Sunday 7th May	Fifth Sunday of Easter
8.00am Mass	Prayer Board Intentions
10.00am Mass	Parish Community and First Holy Communion Children

All Masses and Church Services are now Live Streamed.

To take part please go to <https://stream.seccomgroup.com/channel/olor>

Masses can be watched "live" or later as a recording.

<p>PARISH PRIEST Father Paul Fox 50 London Hill, Rayleigh Essex SS6 7HP 01268 38.24.99 www.olorchurch.org email: rayleigh@dioceseofbrentwood.org</p>	<p>Public Mass times: Saturdays 5.30pm Sundays 8am & 10.00am Mondays 9.30am Wednesdays 10.00am Thursdays & Fridays 9.30am <i>Please be aware - Times and days of weekday Masses are subject to change.</i></p>
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Sacrament of Reconciliation: 4.30pm – 5pm Saturday evenings (not in the confessional box).

Our Parish is part of The Brentwood Diocesan Trust, Registered Charity Number 234092



ANNIVERSARIES †

Kindly pray for Terry Askem, Vera Cooling, Fr. Andrew Dorricott, and Michael O'Flanagan, whose anniversaries occur about this time. May they rest in peace.

Receiving from the Chalice. *We have now re-introduced the Chalice. Please feel under NO obligation to receive from it. Please, let no-one push you in to either receiving or not receiving. It should be your own decision for the reasons mentioned at the end of this newsletter. It is on offer for those who wish to receive the precious Blood as well as the Sacred Host. We will attempt to offer the Chalice at all the weekend Masses.*

Mass 9.30am on Tuesday this week.

Mass on Friday at 9.30am will be offered for King Charles. There will be extra prayers during this Mass regarding the coronation and the future of his reign. Please help yourselves to prayer cards in the church porch.

This Sunday (30th) is Good Shepherd Sunday - World Day of Prayer for Vocations.

Please pray for vocations to the priesthood everywhere and for those currently training for the priesthood. (Please also pray for all who are choosing a vocation rather than a career). The second collection supports the education and formation of our seminarians training for mpriesthood. Please help yourselves to prayer cards in the church porch.

First Holy Communion Masses

Please note that these will happen at the 10am Masses next Sunday, May 7th when 14 of our children will receive Our Lord's Body for the first time; and the following Sunday, May 14th when 12 children will do the same. Please keep our First Holy Communion children and their families in your prayers.



First Holy Communion Rehearsal

First Holy Communion Rehearsal is on Wednesday 3rd May at the church. 6pm till 7.30pm. Parents and children are to attend.

NEWSLETTER ITEMS:

Please ensure all items for the parish newsletter are submitted to the office by **11am on Thursdays** at the latest.

Sunday Coffee Mornings

If you are interested in hosting a Coffee Morning after 10am Sunday Masses to raise money for a charity of your choice, please contact the parish office.



Kids' Bulletin

A children's version of the gospel is available weekly. This can be accessed on the following website: www.thekidsbulletin.com and is aimed at primary school children. It can be downloaded and printed out.

Children's Liturgy- Dates and news

Please note dates for children's liturgy over the next few weeks:

30th April - Children's Liturgy (2 groups)

7th May- NO Children's Liturgy- First Holy Communion Mass

14th May- NO Children's Liturgy- First Holy Communion Mass

21st May- Children's Liturgy (2 groups)

Exciting news - on the 30th April and 21st May we are trialling running 2 groups, so that we are able to tailor our exploration of the Gospel message to 2 separate age groups. Children will come to the session in the usual way, and those in school years 3-6 will continue through the Bethany room to the sacristy, with a leader. The younger group will remain for children ages 3 to year 2.



KNIGHTS SPONSORED WALK

As lay 100 project, the Rayleigh Knights Council 456, are walking from OLOR Church to St Teresa's Church Rochford on Friday 5th May and Saturday 6th May. This is part of a sponsored relay from church to church around the diocese, our leg being from Rayleigh to Rochford. Donations will be greatly appreciated. Please take an envelope as you leave church and return your donation to the presbytery. Thank you.

Knights of St. Columba Competitions 2023

EASTER YOUTH AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Submission Date is Friday, 19th May 2023

At present there are a number of competitions for young people such as:

Painting, Photography, Essay, and Prayer Competitions for different age groups: If anyone would like details, they may contact me and I will forward all the details. Please email:

marting.doyle@blueyonder.co.uk Bro Martin Doyle Action and Youth Officer Council 456 KSC



SVP Spring Tea Party – Thank You. The members of the SVP, Rayleigh, would like to express a huge thank you to all those who helped in any way to make the SVP Spring Tea a wonderful success last Saturday afternoon. Whether through donations of cakes, raffle prizes, catering, waiting on tables or transport, these all contributed to the success of the afternoon. Thank you and God Bless.

Westminster Cathedral Choristers. Tuesday 2nd May at 6pm

The Westminster Cathedral Choristers are coming to Brentwood Cathedral to sing. This will take the form of a Mass and a brief Recital, together lasting no more than an hour and a half. Seating could be reasonably limited, therefore, please email

ninahow@dioceseofbrentwood.org to advice if you will be attending.

Legion of Mary – please read

Help needed with Meals, Transport and Accommodation. Can you help?

The Peregrinatio Pro Christo (PPC) Committee (the HQ of the Legion of Mary) will be coming to our parish, from the 15th to the 22nd July 2023. It will be a team of 12 Legionaries. Can we offer accommodation for these 12 people in various homes? Meals and Transport?

Otherwise the accommodation could prove very expensive on the team. Some financial assistance can be offered. The individual members are happy to sort out some of their own food. Please let Fr. Paul, or Isobel Kennedy (01702 230578) know if you can help. Thank you. The Parish has assisted before, can we do so again?

Knitting and Dementia

Do you like knitting? Do you want to support Dementia? The council is currently working on Dementia Action Week for May 15-22nd in Rayleigh, and are asking if you would like to knit in order to assist with forget me nots to decorate Rayleigh High St. If you are interested, please call Elizabeth on 07803 139927. Thank you.

EDEL QUINN PILGRIMAGE TO AYLESFORD, KENT. SATURDAY 13th MAY 2023

All parishioners, their families and friends are invited to join us for our annual pilgrimage to the shrine at Aylesford. There will be Mass at noon, Rosary procession around the grounds in the afternoon and finishing with Benediction. Confessions are available, book shop etc. Bring your own picnic lunch or buy refreshments there. A coach has been booked – pickup point in Rayleigh is the bus stop outside M&S in Eastwood Rd. Pick up time 9.30am. Cost of coach place £15. To reserve a place please contact Isobel Kennedy 07795 821705 as soon as possible.



Caritas Networking Day

Interested in the Catholic response to homelessness, welcoming refugees and migrants, assisting with the Cost of Living Crisis, or tackling the causes and effects of climate change? Come to the first Caritas Brentwood networking day, **Saturday 10th June, 10am – 2.30pm, at Sacred Heart of Mary School, Upminster** (on C2C & District lines, close to M25 & A127). Hear **national speaker Raymond Friel, OBE**, Chief Executive of the Catholic Social Action network. This day is a chance to be sustained, share ideas and good practices with people from parishes across Essex and East London and hear about charities and resources available. Details and Registration (free!) at www.caritasbrentwood.org/network

Homes for Ukraine Matching Service

Caritas Social Action Network, in partnership with St John of God Hospitaller Services, an international Catholic charity with many services for the vulnerable in the UK and Ireland, is matching Ukrainian people displaced by war with people in the Catholic community, willing to host them in their homes for six months. If you have room in your home and heart to consider welcoming a stranger, then we'd love to hear from you. Please visit <https://sjog-homesforukraine.uk/> for more information.

The Brentwood Catholic Children's Society is inviting parishioners across the Diocese to join in with their annual 'Relay 100' community event this May and June. This initiative is an opportunity to remind our community about the work we do, to reach families who may need our support and to raise some funds through sponsored walks, runs or cycles. We are looking for 100 individuals or groups to complete a 'leg' of our relay around the diocese; we have routes of varying distances so there is something to suit all abilities. Can you help us? To find out more, please contact Damian Dillon: ddillon@bccs.org.uk / 07912 308000 or visit <https://www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events/> and click on 'Relay 100 Sponsored Walks' to read more about this event.

Permanent Diaconate Event with the Bishop, 20th May 2023

Saturday 20th May 2023, 11.00 (Mass) to 14.30 at St Anne Line Catholic Church, 7 Grove Crescent, South Woodford, London, E18 2JR

'Come and See' event on the Permanent Diaconate with Bishop Alan, for all those wishing to learn more about the ministry of deacons in the Church and in the Diocese. Of particular interest to men considering a call to serve as deacons, and to parish priests seeking to promote vocations within their parishes. For further information please contact kencarleton@dioceseofbrentwood.org.



Couples Struggling in their Marriages

Retrouvaille: A Programme for

Help Your Marriage – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage. Tens of thousands of couples headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. The programme helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. It helps them through difficult times whether they are disillusioned or in deep misery. There is no group therapy or group work. For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the next programme commencing with a Virtual weekend on 6 - 9 July 2023 or a Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 13-15 October 2023, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 or email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

Clare Priory Pilgrimage, Sunday 14th May

11.30am Rosary and procession to the Shrine; 12.15pm Service of Reconciliation and Adoration; 2.15pm Mass of the Day. Further information contact: 01787 277326.
Email: clarepriory@clarepriory.net Clare Priory, Clare, Suffolk CO10 8NX
Website: www.clarepriory.org.uk

Praying for the unborn and women facing crisis pregnancies

Join Lord Alton on a sponsored walk from where Tolkien wrote The Lord of the Rings
There will be two sponsored walks in support of Right To Life UK in May.
The Christian Heritage Centre, based at Stonyhurst College, Lancashire, has organised a sponsored walk along the Tolkien Trail on Monday 8 May. Discounted accommodation will be available at Theodore House, Stonyhurst.
The Burnley Knights of St Columba and Catenian Circle 154 have also organised a 10km sponsored walk for Right To Life UK on Monday 29 May.
For further details on how you can join either of the walks visit:
www.righttolife.org.uk/sponsoredwalks

SION COMMUNITY CHARISMATIC TEACHING WEEKEND

From 6pm Friday 19th May to 2pm Sunday 21st May 2023. Theme: 'Living the Prophetic Lifestyle' (part of the 'Moving in the Anointing' series). This weekend is a great follow-up to 'Life in the Spirit' seminars and an opportunity to grow in the Gifts and Charisms of the Holy Spirit. Guest Speaker: Dominic McDermott. Cost: £120 residential, £80 non-residential. Book early as we have limited spaces. To book a place or for more info, visit:
<https://sioncommunity.churchsuite.com/events/f8v3emks>

March for Life UK

Save The Date; The Annual London March for Life will take place on Saturday 2nd September.

THE THRESHOLDS OF HOPE EASTER TALKS will explore what it means to have an intimate friendship with Christ. They will take place on Wednesdays 10th, 17th and 24th of May at St Francis of Assisi, Stratford, E15 1NS from 7.30 - 9.00 p.m. The first talk, "*Calling on the name of Jesus*," will be given by Fr Martin Boland, the Dean of Brentwood Cathedral. All very welcome..

GIDEA PARK STUDY DAY ON POPE BENEDICT AND THE LITURGY

On Saturday 20th May, from 11.00 to 13.00 BST, Fr Vincent Twomey SVD, student and friend of Pope Benedict XVI, will speak on 'The Liturgical Vision of Pope Benedict'. The event will not be in person but live streamed from Ireland on www.whatgoodnews.org. Fr Twomey has recently produced 'The Dynamics of Liturgy: Joseph Ratzinger's Theology of Liturgy', published by Ignatius Press. Further details of the event are to be found on the attached flyer and on the website www.whatgoodnews.org A recording of the study day will be made available subsequently on the website.

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Vacancies:

Hospitality Manager at Walsingham House at Abbotswick. Walsingham House are seeking to appoint a friendly, reliable and trustworthy Hospitality Manager. The postholder will be responsible for welcoming groups wishing to use the retreat centre, being a point of contact and managing the practicalities of the day. For more information please see www.bcys.net or email Claire Bailey for more information (clairebailey@brcdt.org) The closing date for applications is midday on Friday 12th May 2023.

Primary School Link Adviser

The Diocese of Brentwood is seeking to appoint a Primary School Link Adviser who is a practising Catholic, to support the Diocesan Board of Education and its family of schools. This is likely to be a part-time post of either 3 or 4 days a week, however, consideration will also be given to applicants who are seeking a full-time or secondment opportunity. The Primary Link Adviser will report to the Diocesan Director of Education and Deputy Director.

Further details and an application form can be obtained here:

<https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/primary-link-adviser-vacancy/>

The closing date for applications is midday on Friday 28th April 2023

Interviews will be held on Tuesday 2nd May 2023

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society is looking for a **Fundraising and Partnerships Manager** to join their team. This is an excellent opportunity for an enthusiastic and motivated individual to gain valuable experience in fundraising for an established and expanding charity. The Fundraising and Partnership Manager will be

required to generate income from new and existing fundraising activities and to develop and manage relationships across key support audiences. Applicants must have excellent organisational skills and be proficient at managing their time and priorities effectively, working independently and creatively. Read the full Job Description and Person Specification at <https://www.bccs.org.uk/who-we-are/work-us/> Applications should be returned to Julie Abbott, Head of Voluntary Income at jabbott@bccs.org.uk before the application deadline of Friday 12th May at midday.

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Closing Date: 28 May 2023, 9.00am

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To the confused group he explained with obvious humility, "Yes, I am a professionally trained actor, I know how to deliver recitals and monologues, I know Psalm 23 - *The Lord's My Shepherd*..." "Yes", he said, "I know the psalm, but Father here clearly knows the Shepherd".

Major major difference. We can know our prayers, say them by heart, and even say them many times. Very good - but do we know the Shepherd? Jesus is often seen admonishing people who think they know Him because they 'say' lots of prayers. And they do not appear to know Him at all. We are called to know and experience the Shepherd - for ourselves. Like last week - no-one can do this for us.

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Many voices compete for our attention. But there will be one, deep down in our deepest intuitions that we will simply know is Our Lord. But if our mental energies are taken up with thinking and even more thinking, saying lots of things, reading this and reading that, we can never really sense the voice of the one true Shepherd? The voice is found at our deepest intuitions. So we are called to silent prayer, and make it a regular practice so we get in touch with these deeper intuitions. It is surely the finest way to 'discern our vocation (Our Lord's calling)' in life. This is today's challenge - the 'Good Shepherd'.

Yes, to 'know' our prayers is one thing - to 'know' the Shepherd is quite another. Our deepest intuitions will always bear out the voice – the presence of the Shepherd, where we just know we are being led to truth, forgiveness, building each other up, peace and love. Fulfilment. Any negative energies such as revenge, greed, jealousy - we know them - is simply not the true shepherd, and we remain empty, unfulfilled, angry and frustrated. In fact, all alternative voices leave us feeling similar. Shall we make trying to listen for the one true voice, the one presence, our regular practice? Wouldn't that make us and the world around us somewhat happier and a better place to live?

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Kids' Bulletin

A children's version of the gospel is available weekly. This can be accessed on the following website: www.thekidsbulletin.com and is aimed at primary school children. It can be downloaded and printed out.

Children's Liturgy- Dates and news

Please note dates for children's liturgy over the next few weeks:

30th April - Children's Liturgy (2 groups)

7th May- NO Children's Liturgy- First Holy Communion Mass

14th May- NO Children's Liturgy- First Holy Communion Mass

21st May- Children's Liturgy (2 groups)

Exciting news - on the 30th April and 21st May we are trialling running 2 groups, so that we are able to tailor our exploration of the Gospel message to 2 separate age groups. Children will come to the session in the usual way, and those in school years 3-6 will continue through the Bethany room to the sacristy, with a leader. The younger group will remain for children ages 3 to year 2.



KNIGHTS SPONSORED WALK

As lay 100 project, the Rayleigh Knights Council 456, are walking from OLOR Church to St Teresa's Church Rochford on Friday 5th May and Saturday 6th May. This is part of a sponsored relay from church to church around the diocese, our leg being from Rayleigh to Rochford. Donations will be greatly appreciated. Please take an envelope as you leave church and return your donation to the presbytery. Thank you.

Knights of St. Columba Competitions 2023

EASTER YOUTH AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Submission Date is Friday, 19th May 2023

At present there are a number of competitions for young people such as:

Painting, Photography, Essay, and Prayer Competitions for different age groups: If anyone would like details, they may contact me and I will forward all the details. Please email:

marting.doyle@blueyonder.co.uk Bro Martin Doyle Action and Youth Officer Council 456 KSC



SVP Spring Tea Party – Thank You. The members of the SVP, Rayleigh, would like to express a huge thank you to all those who helped in any way to make the SVP Spring Tea a wonderful success last Saturday afternoon. Whether through donations of cakes, raffle prizes, catering, waiting on tables or transport, these all contributed to the success of the afternoon. Thank you and God Bless.

Westminster Cathedral Choristers. Tuesday 2nd May at 6pm

The Westminster Cathedral Choristers are coming to Brentwood Cathedral to sing. This will take the form of a Mass and a brief Recital, together lasting no more than an hour and a half. Seating could be reasonably limited, therefore, please email

ninahow@dioceseofbrentwood.org to advice if you will be attending.

Legion of Mary – please read

Help needed with Meals, Transport and Accommodation. Can you help?

The Peregrinatio Pro Christo (PPC) Committee (the HQ of the Legion of Mary) will be coming to our parish, from the 15th to the 22nd July 2023. It will be a team of 12 Legionaries. Can we offer accommodation for these 12 people in various homes? Meals and Transport?

Otherwise the accommodation could prove very expensive on the team. Some financial assistance can be offered. The individual members are happy to sort out some of their own food. Please let Fr. Paul, or Isobel Kennedy (01702 230578) know if you can help. Thank you. The Parish has assisted before, can we do so again?

Knitting and Dementia

Do you like knitting? Do you want to support Dementia? The council is currently working on Dementia Action Week for May 15-22nd in Rayleigh, and are asking if you would like to knit in order to assist with forget me nots to decorate Rayleigh High St. If you are interested, please call Elizabeth on 07803 139927. Thank you.

EDEL QUINN PILGRIMAGE TO AYLESFORD, KENT. SATURDAY 13th MAY 2023

All parishioners, their families and friends are invited to join us for our annual pilgrimage to the shrine at Aylesford. There will be Mass at noon, Rosary procession around the grounds in the afternoon and finishing with Benediction. Confessions are available, book shop etc. Bring your own picnic lunch or buy refreshments there. A coach has been booked – pickup point in Rayleigh is the bus stop outside M&S in Eastwood Rd. Pick up time 9.30am. Cost of coach place £15. To reserve a place please contact Isobel Kennedy 07795 821705 as soon as possible.



Caritas Networking Day

Interested in the Catholic response to homelessness, welcoming refugees and migrants, assisting with the Cost of Living Crisis, or tackling the causes and effects of climate change? Come to the first Caritas Brentwood networking day, **Saturday 10th June, 10am – 2.30pm, at Sacred Heart of Mary School, Upminster** (on C2C & District lines, close to M25 & A127). Hear **national speaker Raymond Friel, OBE**, Chief Executive of the Catholic Social Action network. This day is a chance to be sustained, share ideas and good practices with people from parishes across Essex and East London and hear about charities and resources available. Details and Registration (free!) at www.caritasbrentwood.org/network

Homes for Ukraine Matching Service

Caritas Social Action Network, in partnership with St John of God Hospitaller Services, an international Catholic charity with many services for the vulnerable in the UK and Ireland, is matching Ukrainian people displaced by war with people in the Catholic community, willing to host them in their homes for six months. If you have room in your home and heart to consider welcoming a stranger, then we'd love to hear from you. Please visit <https://sjog-homesforukraine.uk/> for more information.

The Brentwood Catholic Children's Society is inviting parishioners across the Diocese to join in with their annual 'Relay 100' community event this May and June. This initiative is an opportunity to remind our community about the work we do, to reach families who may need our support and to raise some funds through sponsored walks, runs or cycles. We are looking for 100 individuals or groups to complete a 'leg' of our relay around the diocese; we have routes of varying distances so there is something to suit all abilities. Can you help us? To find out more, please contact Damian Dillon: ddillon@bccs.org.uk / 07912 308000 or visit <https://www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events/> and click on 'Relay 100 Sponsored Walks' to read more about this event.

Permanent Diaconate Event with the Bishop, 20th May 2023

Saturday 20th May 2023, 11.00 (Mass) to 14.30 at St Anne Line Catholic Church, 7 Grove Crescent, South Woodford, London, E18 2JR

'Come and See' event on the Permanent Diaconate with Bishop Alan, for all those wishing to learn more about the ministry of deacons in the Church and in the Diocese. Of particular interest to men considering a call to serve as deacons, and to parish priests seeking to promote vocations within their parishes. For further information please contact kencarleton@dioceseofbrentwood.org.



Couples Struggling in their Marriages

Retrouvaille: A Programme for

Help Your Marriage – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage. Tens of thousands of couples headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. The programme helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. It helps them through difficult times whether they are disillusioned or in deep misery. There is no group therapy or group work. For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the next programme commencing with a Virtual weekend on 6 - 9 July 2023 or a Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 13-15 October 2023, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 or email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

Clare Priory Pilgrimage, Sunday 14th May

11.30am Rosary and procession to the Shrine; 12.15pm Service of Reconciliation and Adoration; 2.15pm Mass of the Day. Further information contact: 01787 277326.
Email: clarepriory@clarepriory.net Clare Priory, Clare, Suffolk CO10 8NX
Website: www.clarepriory.org.uk

Praying for the unborn and women facing crisis pregnancies

Join Lord Alton on a sponsored walk from where Tolkien wrote The Lord of the Rings
There will be two sponsored walks in support of Right To Life UK in May.
The Christian Heritage Centre, based at Stonyhurst College, Lancashire, has organised a sponsored walk along the Tolkien Trail on Monday 8 May. Discounted accommodation will be available at Theodore House, Stonyhurst.
The Burnley Knights of St Columba and Catenian Circle 154 have also organised a 10km sponsored walk for Right To Life UK on Monday 29 May.
For further details on how you can join either of the walks visit:
www.righttolife.org.uk/sponsoredwalks

SION COMMUNITY CHARISMATIC TEACHING WEEKEND

From 6pm Friday 19th May to 2pm Sunday 21st May 2023. Theme: 'Living the Prophetic Lifestyle' (part of the 'Moving in the Anointing' series). This weekend is a great follow-up to 'Life in the Spirit' seminars and an opportunity to grow in the Gifts and Charisms of the Holy Spirit. Guest Speaker: Dominic McDermott. Cost: £120 residential, £80 non-residential. Book early as we have limited spaces. To book a place or for more info, visit:
<https://sioncommunity.churchsuite.com/events/f8v3emks>

March for Life UK

Save The Date; The Annual London March for Life will take place on Saturday 2nd September.

THE THRESHOLDS OF HOPE EASTER TALKS will explore what it means to have an intimate friendship with Christ. They will take place on Wednesdays 10th, 17th and 24th of May at St Francis of Assisi, Stratford, E15 1NS from 7.30 - 9.00 p.m. The first talk, "*Calling on the name of Jesus*," will be given by Fr Martin Boland, the Dean of Brentwood Cathedral. All very welcome..

GIDEA PARK STUDY DAY ON POPE BENEDICT AND THE LITURGY

On Saturday 20th May, from 11.00 to 13.00 BST, Fr Vincent Twomey SVD, student and friend of Pope Benedict XVI, will speak on 'The Liturgical Vision of Pope Benedict'. The event will not be in person but live streamed from Ireland on www.whatgoodnews.org. Fr Twomey has recently produced 'The Dynamics of Liturgy: Joseph Ratzinger's Theology of Liturgy', published by Ignatius Press. Further details of the event are to be found on the attached flyer and on the website www.whatgoodnews.org A recording of the study day will be made available subsequently on the website.

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Vacancies:

Hospitality Manager at Walsingham House at Abbotswick. Walsingham House are seeking to appoint a friendly, reliable and trustworthy Hospitality Manager. The postholder will be responsible for welcoming groups wishing to use the retreat centre, being a point of contact and managing the practicalities of the day. For more information please see www.bcys.net or email Claire Bailey for more information (clairebailey@brcdt.org) The closing date for applications is midday on Friday 12th May 2023.

Primary School Link Adviser

The Diocese of Brentwood is seeking to appoint a Primary School Link Adviser who is a practising Catholic, to support the Diocesan Board of Education and its family of schools. This is likely to be a part-time post of either 3 or 4 days a week, however, consideration will also be given to applicants who are seeking a full-time or secondment opportunity. The Primary Link Adviser will report to the Diocesan Director of Education and Deputy Director.

Further details and an application form can be obtained here:

<https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/primary-link-adviser-vacancy/>

The closing date for applications is midday on Friday 28th April 2023

Interviews will be held on Tuesday 2nd May 2023

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society is looking for a **Fundraising and Partnerships Manager** to join their team. This is an excellent opportunity for an enthusiastic and motivated individual to gain valuable experience in fundraising for an established and expanding charity. The Fundraising and Partnership Manager will be

required to generate income from new and existing fundraising activities and to develop and manage relationships across key support audiences. Applicants must have excellent organisational skills and be proficient at managing their time and priorities effectively, working independently and creatively. Read the full Job Description and Person Specification at <https://www.bccs.org.uk/who-we-are/work-us/> Applications should be returned to Julie Abbott, Head of Voluntary Income at jabbott@bccs.org.uk before the application deadline of Friday 12th May at midday.

Loyola Preparatory, a Catholic boy's school in Buckhurst Hill, is looking to appoint a **Deputy Headteacher** to join their small and friendly school in September 2023. For further information regarding this opportunity please see the TES jobs website. The closing date for applications is by 10am on 10th May 2023. Interested candidates are invited to contact the School Secretary, Mrs Long on 020 8504 7372 or by email to office@loyola.essex.sch.uk to arrange a tour of the school.

St Bernard's Girls Catholic High School. Are you an enthusiastic and inspiring LSA with the skills, confidence, creativity and energy to make a positive impact on the lives of our students?

You will be joining a successful, friendly and supportive department within a high performing school, supporting students from Y7 – Y13 with a range of special educational needs. Applications are welcomed from both experienced LSAs and those new to support.

Years 7-11 with a co-educational mixed Sixth Form. Our school is ranked one of the top schools in Southend, and we are in the top 20% of schools across the country for our progress with students and our outcomes. We offer our students an environment where they can excel academically, personally and spiritually. It is a warm and welcoming school where our Catholic values underpin our day to day life.

All new staff are supported within the positive ethos of this happy and high performing school, and to this end all staff complete an applicable induction training programme. The community at St Bernard's welcome applications from teachers of all faiths or none.

Please complete the final teaching application form found on our website www.stbernardswestcliff.org.uk under School Information/Vacancies – please note we do not accept CVs

Closing Date: 28 May 2023, 9.00am

Interviews: tbc We do reserve the right to close this advertisement early if we receive a high volume of suitable applications. Please contact the HR department for further information on recruitment@stbernards.southend.sch.uk

The Governing Body is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff to share in this commitment.

OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS

Thanks to all who continue to support our parish financially.

QR Codes

Please see on the bench in front of you in church, and at the end of this newsletter. The **QR codes** you can use with your Smart Phones. Giving electronically prevents too much cash lying around and can be of great help. If you can use this way of donating, please do so, it would be a great help. Alternatively, please see QR codes in the church porch. Thank you.

GIFT AID If you are a taxpayer and donate to the parish online or via bank transfer, it's worth a reminder that we could get **an extra 25%** on your donations if you sign up to the Gift Aid scheme.

Please contact Sandra our Gift Aid Co-ordinator (olorgiftaid@hotmail.com / **01268 772998**) **if you have any questions.** Thank you

Donate with Gift Aid

giftaid it





If you wish to Gift Aid your donation please scan the codes in this section after reading the declaration.

Please treat as gift aid donation, all qualifying gifts of money made from the date of this declaration. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that, if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations, it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Donate £3.00	Donate £5.00	Donate £10.00	Donate £20.00
			

Donate without Gift Aid

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Holy Communion from the Chalice

The Bishops of England and Wales have said that Communion from the Chalice—the Precious Blood—may be resumed from Easter. Our Bishop has stated that this is a permission and not obligatory. The Chalice was suspended at the start of the pandemic to prevent the spread of the virus. Many of us are understandably still being vigilant with regard to further contagion, especially if we are vulnerable. The teaching of the Church is that when we receive Holy Communion, Christ is present whole and entire—Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity—under either kind. By receiving under one species we do not receive less of Christ or less grace. Receiving from the Chalice obviously emphasises the sacramental sign—of eating and drinking the Body and Blood of The Lord. The counsel we are receiving is that we should reintroduce the Chalice prudently and cautiously once it is clear that the majority of parishioners are content that Covid, Influenza and other diseases are not communicable. It would seem unwise to reintroduce this practice and then have to withdraw it with the approach of winter. I have communicated this with our extra-ordinary ministers of Holy Communion to ensure that they feel satisfied that this is once again safe, since they will need to purify and consume what remains in the Chalice; I am not happy asking others to do something that I, for sure, would not be prepared to do myself, given the potential attendant health risks. I, too, am fairly vulnerable. The Southend Deanery has also discussed this and have jointly made this decision too for their Parishes.

The question of the possibility of Intinction (when the Host is dipped into the Precious Blood so that a communicant receives both together) has been raised. The Bishops' Conference has decided to affirm the practice found in *Celebrating the Mass* which states that this form of the reception of Holy Communion “is not recommended in England and Wales.” It restricts the possibility of the communicant to receive the host reverently in their hands. Likewise, communicants are not permitted to receive Holy Communion by “self-intinction” where having received the Sacred Host in the hand, they proceed to the Precious Blood and “dip” the host themselves into the chalice. Sacraments are never taken, but received, and the gesture of “self-intinction” denies this reality.

I hope this helps.

Thank you. Fr. Paul

OUR LADY OF RANSOM



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Retrouvaille: A Programme for

Help Your Marriage – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage. Tens of thousands of couples headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. The programme helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. It helps them through difficult times whether they are disillusioned or in deep misery. There is no group therapy or group work. For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the next programme commencing with a Virtual weekend on 6 - 9 July 2023 or a Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 13-15 October 2023, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 or email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

Clare Priory Pilgrimage, Sunday 14th May

11.30am Rosary and procession to the Shrine; 12.15pm Service of Reconciliation and Adoration; 2.15pm Mass of the Day. Further information contact: 01787 277326.
Email: clarepriory@clarepriory.net Clare Priory, Clare, Suffolk CO10 8NX
Website: www.clarepriory.org.uk

Praying for the unborn and women facing crisis pregnancies

Join Lord Alton on a sponsored walk from where Tolkien wrote The Lord of the Rings
There will be two sponsored walks in support of Right To Life UK in May.
The Christian Heritage Centre, based at Stonyhurst College, Lancashire, has organised a sponsored walk along the Tolkien Trail on Monday 8 May. Discounted accommodation will be available at Theodore House, Stonyhurst.
The Burnley Knights of St Columba and Catenian Circle 154 have also organised a 10km sponsored walk for Right To Life UK on Monday 29 May.
For further details on how you can join either of the walks visit:
www.righttolife.org.uk/sponsoredwalks

SION COMMUNITY CHARISMATIC TEACHING WEEKEND

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<https://sioncommunity.churchsuite.com/events/f8v3emks>

March for Life UK

Save The Date; The Annual London March for Life will take place on Saturday 2nd September.

THE THRESHOLDS OF HOPE EASTER TALKS will explore what it means to have an intimate friendship with Christ. They will take place on Wednesdays 10th, 17th and 24th of May at St Francis of Assisi, Stratford, E15 1NS from 7.30 - 9.00 p.m. The first talk, "*Calling on the name of Jesus*," will be given by Fr Martin Boland, the Dean of Brentwood Cathedral. All very welcome..

GIDEA PARK STUDY DAY ON POPE BENEDICT AND THE LITURGY

On Saturday 20th May, from 11.00 to 13.00 BST, Fr Vincent Twomey SVD, student and friend of Pope Benedict XVI, will speak on 'The Liturgical Vision of Pope Benedict'. The event will not be in person but live streamed from Ireland on www.whatgoodnews.org. Fr Twomey has recently produced 'The Dynamics of Liturgy: Joseph Ratzinger's Theology of Liturgy', published by Ignatius Press. Further details of the event are to be found on the attached flyer and on the website www.whatgoodnews.org A recording of the study day will be made available subsequently on the website.

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Vacancies:

Hospitality Manager at Walsingham House at Abbotswick. Walsingham House are seeking to appoint a friendly, reliable and trustworthy Hospitality Manager. The postholder will be responsible for welcoming groups wishing to use the retreat centre, being a point of contact and managing the practicalities of the day. For more information please see www.bcys.net or email Claire Bailey for more information (clairebailey@brcdt.org) The closing date for applications is midday on Friday 12th May 2023.

Primary School Link Adviser

The Diocese of Brentwood is seeking to appoint a Primary School Link Adviser who is a practising Catholic, to support the Diocesan Board of Education and its family of schools. This is likely to be a part-time post of either 3 or 4 days a week, however, consideration will also be given to applicants who are seeking a full-time or secondment opportunity. The Primary Link Adviser will report to the Diocesan Director of Education and Deputy Director.

Further details and an application form can be obtained here:

<https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/primary-link-adviser-vacancy/>

The closing date for applications is midday on Friday 28th April 2023

Interviews will be held on Tuesday 2nd May 2023

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society is looking for a **Fundraising and Partnerships Manager** to join their team. This is an excellent opportunity for an enthusiastic and motivated individual to gain valuable experience in fundraising for an established and expanding charity. The Fundraising and Partnership Manager will be

required to generate income from new and existing fundraising activities and to develop and manage relationships across key support audiences. Applicants must have excellent organisational skills and be proficient at managing their time and priorities effectively, working independently and creatively. Read the full Job Description and Person Specification at <https://www.bccs.org.uk/who-we-are/work-us/> Applications should be returned to Julie Abbott, Head of Voluntary Income at jabbott@bccs.org.uk before the application deadline of Friday 12th May at midday.

Loyola Preparatory, a Catholic boy's school in Buckhurst Hill, is looking to appoint a **Deputy Headteacher** to join their small and friendly school in September 2023. For further information regarding this opportunity please see the TES jobs website. The closing date for applications is by 10am on 10th May 2023. Interested candidates are invited to contact the School Secretary, Mrs Long on 020 8504 7372 or by email to office@loyola.essex.sch.uk to arrange a tour of the school.

St Bernard's Girls Catholic High School. Are you an enthusiastic and inspiring LSA with the skills, confidence, creativity and energy to make a positive impact on the lives of our students?

You will be joining a successful, friendly and supportive department within a high performing school, supporting students from Y7 – Y13 with a range of special educational needs. Applications are welcomed from both experienced LSAs and those new to support.

Years 7-11 with a co-educational mixed Sixth Form. Our school is ranked one of the top schools in Southend, and we are in the top 20% of schools across the country for our progress with students and our outcomes. We offer our students an environment where they can excel academically, personally and spiritually. It is a warm and welcoming school where our Catholic values underpin our day to day life.

All new staff are supported within the positive ethos of this happy and high performing school, and to this end all staff complete an applicable induction training programme. The community at St Bernard's welcome applications from teachers of all faiths or none.

Please complete the final teaching application form found on our website www.stbernardswestcliff.org.uk under School Information/Vacancies – please note we do not accept CVs

Closing Date: 28 May 2023, 9.00am

Interviews: tbc We do reserve the right to close this advertisement early if we receive a high volume of suitable applications. Please contact the HR department for further information on recruitment@stbernards.southend.sch.uk

The Governing Body is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff to share in this commitment.

OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS

Thanks to all who continue to support our parish financially.

QR Codes

Please see on the bench in front of you in church, and at the end of this newsletter. The **QR codes** you can use with your Smart Phones. Giving electronically prevents too much cash lying around and can be of great help. If you can use this way of donating, please do so, it would be a great help. Alternatively, please see QR codes in the church porch. Thank you.

GIFT AID If you are a taxpayer and donate to the parish online or via bank transfer, it's worth a reminder that we could get **an extra 25%** on your donations if you sign up to the Gift Aid scheme.

Please contact Sandra our Gift Aid Co-ordinator (olorgiftaid@hotmail.com / **01268 772998**) **if you have any questions.** Thank you

Donate with Gift Aid

giftaid it





If you wish to Gift Aid your donation please scan the codes in this section after reading the declaration.

Please treat as gift aid donation, all qualifying gifts of money made from the date of this declaration. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that, if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations, it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Donate £3.00	Donate £5.00	Donate £10.00	Donate £20.00
			

Donate without Gift Aid

If you are unable to donate with Gift Aid then please use the codes below

Donate £3.00	Donate £5.00	Donate £10.00	Donate £20.00
			

Holy Communion from the Chalice

The Bishops of England and Wales have said that Communion from the Chalice—the Precious Blood—may be resumed from Easter. Our Bishop has stated that this is a permission and not obligatory. The Chalice was suspended at the start of the pandemic to prevent the spread of the virus. Many of us are understandably still being vigilant with regard to further contagion, especially if we are vulnerable. The teaching of the Church is that when we receive Holy Communion, Christ is present whole and entire—Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity—under either kind. By receiving under one species we do not receive less of Christ or less grace. Receiving from the Chalice obviously emphasises the sacramental sign—of eating and drinking the Body and Blood of The Lord. The counsel we are receiving is that we should reintroduce the Chalice prudently and cautiously once it is clear that the majority of parishioners are content that Covid, Influenza and other diseases are not communicable. It would seem unwise to reintroduce this practice and then have to withdraw it with the approach of winter. I have communicated this with our extra-ordinary ministers of Holy Communion to ensure that they feel satisfied that this is once again safe, since they will need to purify and consume what remains in the Chalice; I am not happy asking others to do something that I, for sure, would not be prepared to do myself, given the potential attendant health risks. I, too, am fairly vulnerable. The Southend Deanery has also discussed this and have jointly made this decision too for their Parishes.

The question of the possibility of Intinction (when the Host is dipped into the Precious Blood so that a communicant receives both together) has been raised. The Bishops' Conference has decided to affirm the practice found in *Celebrating the Mass* which states that this form of the reception of Holy Communion “is not recommended in England and Wales.” It restricts the possibility of the communicant to receive the host reverently in their hands. Likewise, communicants are not permitted to receive Holy Communion by “self-intinction” where having received the Sacred Host in the hand, they proceed to the Precious Blood and “dip” the host themselves into the chalice. Sacraments are never taken, but received, and the gesture of “self-intinction” denies this reality.

I hope this helps.

Thank you. Fr. Paul

OUR LADY OF RANSOM



30th April 2023 Easter 4A (Good Shepherd Sunday) Psalter Week 4

The dinner party was going well. The famous actor was cajoled by the gathering to give a soliloquy. So, with great eloquence, intonation and diction, he recited *The Lord's My Shepherd*....On finishing, the gathering gave him a great round of applause. Now, an elderly priest also at the party was also cajoled in to reciting the same thing, Psalm 23. Nervous, yet confident, with great reverence and obvious inner conviction, he shakily recited the same thing. On finishing, with a slight pregnant pause, the crowd similarly applauded him. Following the applause, the actor came back and asked the assembled party whether anyone had spotted a fundamental difference between the two of their recitals.

To the confused group he explained with obvious humility, "Yes, I am a professionally trained actor, I know how to deliver recitals and monologues, I know Psalm 23 - *The Lord's My Shepherd*..." "Yes", he said, "I know the psalm, but Father here clearly knows the Shepherd".

Major major difference. We can know our prayers, say them by heart, and even say them many times. Very good - but do we know the Shepherd? Jesus is often seen admonishing people who think they know Him because they 'say' lots of prayers. And they do not appear to know Him at all. We are called to know and experience the Shepherd - for ourselves. Like last week - no-one can do this for us.

To listen to his voice alone. So we see the importance of silent prayer. How can we even hope to sense His voice if we are continually babbling, using lots of words or thinking lots of things?

Many voices compete for our attention. But there will be one, deep down in our deepest intuitions that we will simply know is Our Lord. But if our mental energies are taken up with thinking and even more thinking, saying lots of things, reading this and reading that, we can never really sense the voice of the one true Shepherd? The voice is found at our deepest intuitions. So we are called to silent prayer, and make it a regular practice so we get in touch with these deeper intuitions. It is surely the finest way to 'discern our vocation (Our Lord's calling)' in life. This is today's challenge - the 'Good Shepherd'.

Yes, to 'know' our prayers is one thing - to 'know' the Shepherd is quite another. Our deepest intuitions will always bear out the voice – the presence of the Shepherd, where we just know we are being led to truth, forgiveness, building each other up, peace and love. Fulfilment. Any negative energies such as revenge, greed, jealousy - we know them - is simply not the true shepherd, and we remain empty, unfulfilled, angry and frustrated. In fact, all alternative voices leave us feeling similar. Shall we make trying to listen for the one true voice, the one presence, our regular practice? Wouldn't that make us and the world around us somewhat happier and a better place to live?

First Reading: Acts 2:14, 36-41

Psalm: Psalm 22(23)

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:20-25

Gospel: John 10:1-10



MASS INTENTIONS	
Saturday 29th April	St Catherine of Siena
5.30pm	Irena Owczarek RIP (Anniv) (Krolikowski Family)
Sunday 30th April	Fourth Sunday of Easter
8.00am	John McMorroo RIP (Caroline & Steve Bunker)
10.00am	Parish Community
Monday 1st May	
9.30am	Fr Henry Young RIP
Tuesday 2nd May	St Athanasius
9.30am	Private Intention
Wednesday 3rd May	SS Philip and James
10.00am	Eva Murray RIP (Kathleen Murray)
Thursday 4th May	The English Martyrs
9.30am	Patricia Cotter RIP (Pat & Mary Rickard)
Friday 5th May	
9.30am	King Charles' Intentions
Saturday 6th May	St John Payne
5.30pm	Jack Gardiner RIP (Joan Gardiner)
Sunday 7th May	Fifth Sunday of Easter
8.00am Mass	Prayer Board Intentions
10.00am Mass	Parish Community and First Holy Communion Children

All Masses and Church Services are now Live Streamed.

To take part please go to <https://stream.seccomgroup.com/channel/olor>

Masses can be watched "live" or later as a recording.

<p>PARISH PRIEST Father Paul Fox 50 London Hill, Rayleigh Essex SS6 7HP 01268 38.24.99 www.olorchurch.org email: rayleigh@dioceseofbrentwood.org</p>	<p>Public Mass times: Saturdays 5.30pm Sundays 8am & 10.00am Mondays 9.30am Wednesdays 10.00am Thursdays & Fridays 9.30am <i>Please be aware - Times and days of weekday Masses are subject to change.</i></p>
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Sacrament of Reconciliation: 4.30pm – 5pm Saturday evenings (not in the confessional box).

Our Parish is part of The Brentwood Diocesan Trust, Registered Charity Number 234092



ANNIVERSARIES †

Kindly pray for Terry Askem, Vera Cooling, Fr. Andrew Dorricott, and Michael O'Flanagan, whose anniversaries occur about this time. May they rest in peace.

Receiving from the Chalice. *We have now re-introduced the Chalice. Please feel under NO obligation to receive from it. Please, let no-one push you in to either receiving or not receiving. It should be your own decision for the reasons mentioned at the end of this newsletter. It is on offer for those who wish to receive the precious Blood as well as the Sacred Host. We will attempt to offer the Chalice at all the weekend Masses.*

Mass 9.30am on Tuesday this week.

Mass on Friday at 9.30am will be offered for King Charles. There will be extra prayers during this Mass regarding the coronation and the future of his reign. Please help yourselves to prayer cards in the church porch.

This Sunday (30th) is Good Shepherd Sunday - World Day of Prayer for Vocations.

Please pray for vocations to the priesthood everywhere and for those currently training for the priesthood. (Please also pray for all who are choosing a vocation rather than a career). The second collection supports the education and formation of our seminarians training for mpriesthood. Please help yourselves to prayer cards in the church porch.

First Holy Communion Masses

Please note that these will happen at the 10am Masses next Sunday, May 7th when 14 of our children will receive Our Lord's Body for the first time; and the following Sunday, May 14th when 12 children will do the same. Please keep our First Holy Communion children and their families in your prayers.



First Holy Communion Rehearsal

First Holy Communion Rehearsal is on Wednesday 3rd May at the church. 6pm till 7.30pm. Parents and children are to attend.

NEWSLETTER ITEMS:

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11.30am Rosary and procession to the Shrine; 12.15pm Service of Reconciliation and Adoration; 2.15pm Mass of the Day. Further information contact: 01787 277326.

Email: clarepriory@clarepriory.net Clare Priory, Clare, Suffolk CO10 8NX

Website: www.clarepriory.org.uk

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St Bernard's Girls Catholic High School. Are you an enthusiastic and inspiring LSA with the skills, confidence, creativity and energy to make a positive impact on the lives of our students?

You will be joining a successful, friendly and supportive department within a high performing school, supporting students from Y7 – Y13 with a range of special educational needs. Applications are welcomed from both experienced LSAs and those new to support.

Years 7-11 with a co-educational mixed Sixth Form. Our school is ranked one of the top schools in Southend, and we are in the top 20% of schools across the country for our progress with students and our outcomes. We offer our students an environment where they can excel academically, personally and spiritually. It is a warm and welcoming school where our Catholic values underpin our day to day life.

All new staff are supported within the positive ethos of this happy and high performing school, and to this end all staff complete an applicable induction training programme. The community at St Bernard's welcome applications from teachers of all faiths or none.

Please complete the final teaching application form found on our website www.stbernardswestcliff.org.uk under School Information/Vacancies – please note we do not accept CVs

Closing Date: 28 May 2023, 9.00am

Interviews: tbc We do reserve the right to close this advertisement early if we receive a high volume of suitable applications. Please contact the HR department for further information on recruitment@stbernards.southend.sch.uk

The Governing Body is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff to share in this commitment.

OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS

Thanks to all who continue to support our parish financially.

QR Codes

Please see on the bench in front of you in church, and at the end of this newsletter. The **QR codes** you can use with your Smart Phones. Giving electronically prevents too much cash lying around and can be of great help. If you can use this way of donating, please do so, it would be a great help. Alternatively, please see QR codes in the church porch. Thank you.

GIFT AID If you are a taxpayer and donate to the parish online or via bank transfer, it's worth a reminder that we could get **an extra 25%** on your donations if you sign up to the Gift Aid scheme.

Please contact Sandra our Gift Aid Co-ordinator (olorgiftaid@hotmail.com / **01268 772998**) **if you have any questions.** Thank you

Donate with Gift Aid

giftaid it





If you wish to Gift Aid your donation please scan the codes in this section after reading the declaration.

Please treat as gift aid donation, all qualifying gifts of money made from the date of this declaration. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that, if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations, it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Donate £3.00	Donate £5.00	Donate £10.00	Donate £20.00
			

Donate without Gift Aid

If you are unable to donate with Gift Aid then please use the codes below

Donate £3.00	Donate £5.00	Donate £10.00	Donate £20.00
			

Holy Communion from the Chalice

The Bishops of England and Wales have said that Communion from the Chalice—the Precious Blood—may be resumed from Easter. Our Bishop has stated that this is a permission and not obligatory. The Chalice was suspended at the start of the pandemic to prevent the spread of the virus. Many of us are understandably still being vigilant with regard to further contagion, especially if we are vulnerable. The teaching of the Church is that when we receive Holy Communion, Christ is present whole and entire—Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity—under either kind. By receiving under one species we do not receive less of Christ or less grace. Receiving from the Chalice obviously emphasises the sacramental sign—of eating and drinking the Body and Blood of The Lord. The counsel we are receiving is that we should reintroduce the Chalice prudently and cautiously once it is clear that the majority of parishioners are content that Covid, Influenza and other diseases are not communicable. It would seem unwise to reintroduce this practice and then have to withdraw it with the approach of winter. I have communicated this with our extra-ordinary ministers of Holy Communion to ensure that they feel satisfied that this is once again safe, since they will need to purify and consume what remains in the Chalice; I am not happy asking others to do something that I, for sure, would not be prepared to do myself, given the potential attendant health risks. I, too, am fairly vulnerable. The Southend Deanery has also discussed this and have jointly made this decision too for their Parishes.

The question of the possibility of Intinction (when the Host is dipped into the Precious Blood so that a communicant receives both together) has been raised. The Bishops' Conference has decided to affirm the practice found in *Celebrating the Mass* which states that this form of the reception of Holy Communion “is not recommended in England and Wales.” It restricts the possibility of the communicant to receive the host reverently in their hands. Likewise, communicants are not permitted to receive Holy Communion by “self-intinction” where having received the Sacred Host in the hand, they proceed to the Precious Blood and “dip” the host themselves into the chalice. Sacraments are never taken, but received, and the gesture of “self-intinction” denies this reality.

I hope this helps.

Thank you. Fr. Paul

OUR LADY OF RANSOM



30th April 2023 Easter 4A (Good Shepherd Sunday) Psalter Week 4

The dinner party was going well. The famous actor was cajoled by the gathering to give a soliloquy. So, with great eloquence, intonation and diction, he recited *The Lord's My Shepherd*... On finishing, the gathering gave him a great round of applause. Now, an elderly priest also at the party was also cajoled in to reciting the same thing, Psalm 23. Nervous, yet confident, with great reverence and obvious inner conviction, he shakily recited the same thing. On finishing, with a slight pregnant pause, the crowd similarly applauded him. Following the applause, the actor came back and asked the assembled party whether anyone had spotted a fundamental difference between the two of their recitals.

To the confused group he explained with obvious humility, "Yes, I am a professionally trained actor, I know how to deliver recitals and monologues, I know Psalm 23 - *The Lord's My Shepherd*..." "Yes", he said, "I know the psalm, but Father here clearly knows the Shepherd".

Major major difference. We can know our prayers, say them by heart, and even say them many times. Very good - but do we know the Shepherd? Jesus is often seen admonishing people who think they know Him because they 'say' lots of prayers. And they do not appear to know Him at all. We are called to know and experience the Shepherd - for ourselves. Like last week - no-one can do this for us.

To listen to his voice alone. So we see the importance of silent prayer. How can we even hope to sense His voice if we are continually babbling, using lots of words or thinking lots of things?

Many voices compete for our attention. But there will be one, deep down in our deepest intuitions that we will simply know is Our Lord. But if our mental energies are taken up with thinking and even more thinking, saying lots of things, reading this and reading that, we can never really sense the voice of the one true Shepherd? The voice is found at our deepest intuitions. So we are called to silent prayer, and make it a regular practice so we get in touch with these deeper intuitions. It is surely the finest way to 'discern our vocation (Our Lord's calling)' in life. This is today's challenge - the 'Good Shepherd'.

Yes, to 'know' our prayers is one thing - to 'know' the Shepherd is quite another. Our deepest intuitions will always bear out the voice – the presence of the Shepherd, where we just know we are being led to truth, forgiveness, building each other up, peace and love. Fulfilment. Any negative energies such as revenge, greed, jealousy - we know them - is simply not the true shepherd, and we remain empty, unfulfilled, angry and frustrated. In fact, all alternative voices leave us feeling similar. Shall we make trying to listen for the one true voice, the one presence, our regular practice? Wouldn't that make us and the world around us somewhat happier and a better place to live?

First Reading: Acts 2:14, 36-41

Psalm: Psalm 22(23)

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:20-25

Gospel: John 10:1-10



MASS INTENTIONS	
Saturday 29th April	St Catherine of Siena
5.30pm	Irena Owczarek RIP (Anniv) (Krolikowski Family)
Sunday 30th April	Fourth Sunday of Easter
8.00am	John McMorroo RIP (Caroline & Steve Bunker)
10.00am	Parish Community
Monday 1st May	
9.30am	Fr Henry Young RIP
Tuesday 2nd May	St Athanasius
9.30am	Private Intention
Wednesday 3rd May	SS Philip and James
10.00am	Eva Murray RIP (Kathleen Murray)
Thursday 4th May	The English Martyrs
9.30am	Patricia Cotter RIP (Pat & Mary Rickard)
Friday 5th May	
9.30am	King Charles' Intentions
Saturday 6th May	St John Payne
5.30pm	Jack Gardiner RIP (Joan Gardiner)
Sunday 7th May	Fifth Sunday of Easter
8.00am Mass	Prayer Board Intentions
10.00am Mass	Parish Community and First Holy Communion Children

All Masses and Church Services are now Live Streamed.

To take part please go to <https://stream.seccomgroup.com/channel/olor>

Masses can be watched "live" or later as a recording.

<p>PARISH PRIEST Father Paul Fox 50 London Hill, Rayleigh Essex SS6 7HP 01268 38.24.99 www.olorchurch.org email: rayleigh@dioceseofbrentwood.org</p>	<p>Public Mass times: Saturdays 5.30pm Sundays 8am & 10.00am Mondays 9.30am Wednesdays 10.00am Thursdays & Fridays 9.30am <i>Please be aware - Times and days of weekday Masses are subject to change.</i></p>
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Sacrament of Reconciliation: 4.30pm – 5pm Saturday evenings (not in the confessional box).

Our Parish is part of The Brentwood Diocesan Trust, Registered Charity Number 234092



ANNIVERSARIES †

Kindly pray for Terry Askem, Vera Cooling, Fr. Andrew Dorricott, and Michael O'Flanagan, whose anniversaries occur about this time. May they rest in peace.

Receiving from the Chalice. *We have now re-introduced the Chalice. Please feel under NO obligation to receive from it. Please, let no-one push you in to either receiving or not receiving. It should be your own decision for the reasons mentioned at the end of this newsletter. It is on offer for those who wish to receive the precious Blood as well as the Sacred Host. We will attempt to offer the Chalice at all the weekend Masses.*

Mass 9.30am on Tuesday this week.

Mass on Friday at 9.30am will be offered for King Charles. There will be extra prayers during this Mass regarding the coronation and the future of his reign. Please help yourselves to prayer cards in the church porch.

This Sunday (30th) is Good Shepherd Sunday - World Day of Prayer for Vocations.

Please pray for vocations to the priesthood everywhere and for those currently training for the priesthood. (Please also pray for all who are choosing a vocation rather than a career). The second collection supports the education and formation of our seminarians training for mpriesthood. Please help yourselves to prayer cards in the church porch.

First Holy Communion Masses

Please note that these will happen at the 10am Masses next Sunday, May 7th when 14 of our children will receive Our Lord's Body for the first time; and the following Sunday, May 14th when 12 children will do the same. Please keep our First Holy Communion children and their families in your prayers.



First Holy Communion Rehearsal

First Holy Communion Rehearsal is on Wednesday 3rd May at the church. 6pm till 7.30pm. Parents and children are to attend.

NEWSLETTER ITEMS:

Please ensure all items for the parish newsletter are submitted to the office by **11am on Thursdays** at the latest.

Sunday Coffee Mornings

If you are interested in hosting a Coffee Morning after 10am Sunday Masses to raise money for a charity of your choice, please contact the parish office.



Kids' Bulletin

A children's version of the gospel is available weekly. This can be accessed on the following website: www.thekidsbulletin.com and is aimed at primary school children. It can be downloaded and printed out.

Children's Liturgy- Dates and news

Please note dates for children's liturgy over the next few weeks:

30th April - Children's Liturgy (2 groups)

7th May- NO Children's Liturgy- First Holy Communion Mass

14th May- NO Children's Liturgy- First Holy Communion Mass

21st May- Children's Liturgy (2 groups)

Exciting news - on the 30th April and 21st May we are trialling running 2 groups, so that we are able to tailor our exploration of the Gospel message to 2 separate age groups. Children will come to the session in the usual way, and those in school years 3-6 will continue through the Bethany room to the sacristy, with a leader. The younger group will remain for children ages 3 to year 2.



KNIGHTS SPONSORED WALK

As lay 100 project, the Rayleigh Knights Council 456, are walking from OLOR Church to St Teresa's Church Rochford on Friday 5th May and Saturday 6th May. This is part of a sponsored relay from church to church around the diocese, our leg being from Rayleigh to Rochford. Donations will be greatly appreciated. Please take an envelope as you leave church and return your donation to the presbytery. Thank you.

Knights of St. Columba Competitions 2023

EASTER YOUTH AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Submission Date is Friday, 19th May 2023

At present there are a number of competitions for young people such as:

Painting, Photography, Essay, and Prayer Competitions for different age groups: If anyone would like details, they may contact me and I will forward all the details. Please email:

marting.doyle@blueyonder.co.uk Bro Martin Doyle Action and Youth Officer Council 456 KSC



SVP Spring Tea Party – Thank You. The members of the SVP, Rayleigh, would like to express a huge thank you to all those who helped in any way to make the SVP Spring Tea a wonderful success last Saturday afternoon. Whether through donations of cakes, raffle prizes, catering, waiting on tables or transport, these all contributed to the success of the afternoon. Thank you and God Bless.

Westminster Cathedral Choristers. Tuesday 2nd May at 6pm

The Westminster Cathedral Choristers are coming to Brentwood Cathedral to sing. This will take the form of a Mass and a brief Recital, together lasting no more than an hour and a half. Seating could be reasonably limited, therefore, please email

ninahow@dioceseofbrentwood.org to advice if you will be attending.

Legion of Mary – please read

Help needed with Meals, Transport and Accommodation. Can you help?

The Peregrinatio Pro Christo (PPC) Committee (the HQ of the Legion of Mary) will be coming to our parish, from the 15th to the 22nd July 2023. It will be a team of 12 Legionaries. Can we offer accommodation for these 12 people in various homes? Meals and Transport?

Otherwise the accommodation could prove very expensive on the team. Some financial assistance can be offered. The individual members are happy to sort out some of their own food. Please let Fr. Paul, or Isobel Kennedy (01702 230578) know if you can help. Thank you. The Parish has assisted before, can we do so again?

Knitting and Dementia

Do you like knitting? Do you want to support Dementia? The council is currently working on Dementia Action Week for May 15-22nd in Rayleigh, and are asking if you would like to knit in order to assist with forget me nots to decorate Rayleigh High St. If you are interested, please call Elizabeth on 07803 139927. Thank you.

EDEL QUINN PILGRIMAGE TO AYLESFORD, KENT. SATURDAY 13th MAY 2023

All parishioners, their families and friends are invited to join us for our annual pilgrimage to the shrine at Aylesford. There will be Mass at noon, Rosary procession around the grounds in the afternoon and finishing with Benediction. Confessions are available, book shop etc. Bring your own picnic lunch or buy refreshments there. A coach has been booked – pickup point in Rayleigh is the bus stop outside M&S in Eastwood Rd. Pick up time 9.30am. Cost of coach place £15. To reserve a place please contact Isobel Kennedy 07795 821705 as soon as possible.



Caritas Networking Day

Interested in the Catholic response to homelessness, welcoming refugees and migrants, assisting with the Cost of Living Crisis, or tackling the causes and effects of climate change? Come to the first Caritas Brentwood networking day, **Saturday 10th June, 10am – 2.30pm, at Sacred Heart of Mary School, Upminster** (on C2C & District lines, close to M25 & A127). Hear **national speaker Raymond Friel, OBE**, Chief Executive of the Catholic Social Action network. This day is a chance to be sustained, share ideas and good practices with people from parishes across Essex and East London and hear about charities and resources available. Details and Registration (free!) at www.caritasbrentwood.org/network

Homes for Ukraine Matching Service

Caritas Social Action Network, in partnership with St John of God Hospitaller Services, an international Catholic charity with many services for the vulnerable in the UK and Ireland, is matching Ukrainian people displaced by war with people in the Catholic community, willing to host them in their homes for six months. If you have room in your home and heart to consider welcoming a stranger, then we'd love to hear from you. Please visit <https://sjog-homesforukraine.uk/> for more information.

The Brentwood Catholic Children's Society is inviting parishioners across the Diocese to join in with their annual 'Relay 100' community event this May and June. This initiative is an opportunity to remind our community about the work we do, to reach families who may need our support and to raise some funds through sponsored walks, runs or cycles. We are looking for 100 individuals or groups to complete a 'leg' of our relay around the diocese; we have routes of varying distances so there is something to suit all abilities. Can you help us? To find out more, please contact Damian Dillon: ddillon@bccs.org.uk / 07912 308000 or visit <https://www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events/> and click on 'Relay 100 Sponsored Walks' to read more about this event.

Permanent Diaconate Event with the Bishop, 20th May 2023

Saturday 20th May 2023, 11.00 (Mass) to 14.30 at St Anne Line Catholic Church, 7 Grove Crescent, South Woodford, London, E18 2JR

'Come and See' event on the Permanent Diaconate with Bishop Alan, for all those wishing to learn more about the ministry of deacons in the Church and in the Diocese. Of particular interest to men considering a call to serve as deacons, and to parish priests seeking to promote vocations within their parishes. For further information please contact kencarleton@dioceseofbrentwood.org.



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I hope this helps.

Thank you. Fr. Paul

OUR LADY OF RANSOM



30th April 2023 Easter 4A (Good Shepherd Sunday) Psalter Week 4

The dinner party was going well. The famous actor was cajoled by the gathering to give a soliloquy. So, with great eloquence, intonation and diction, he recited *The Lord's My Shepherd*... On finishing, the gathering gave him a great round of applause. Now, an elderly priest also at the party was also cajoled in to reciting the same thing, Psalm 23. Nervous, yet confident, with great reverence and obvious inner conviction, he shakily recited the same thing. On finishing, with a slight pregnant pause, the crowd similarly applauded him. Following the applause, the actor came back and asked the assembled party whether anyone had spotted a fundamental difference between the two of their recitals.

To the confused group he explained with obvious humility, "Yes, I am a professionally trained actor, I know how to deliver recitals and monologues, I know Psalm 23 - *The Lord's My Shepherd*..." "Yes", he said, "I know the psalm, but Father here clearly knows the Shepherd".

Major major difference. We can know our prayers, say them by heart, and even say them many times. Very good - but do we know the Shepherd? Jesus is often seen admonishing people who think they know Him because they 'say' lots of prayers. And they do not appear to know Him at all. We are called to know and experience the Shepherd - for ourselves. Like last week - no-one can do this for us.

To listen to his voice alone. So we see the importance of silent prayer. How can we even hope to sense His voice if we are continually babbling, using lots of words or thinking lots of things?

Many voices compete for our attention. But there will be one, deep down in our deepest intuitions that we will simply know is Our Lord. But if our mental energies are taken up with thinking and even more thinking, saying lots of things, reading this and reading that, we can never really sense the voice of the one true Shepherd? The voice is found at our deepest intuitions. So we are called to silent prayer, and make it a regular practice so we get in touch with these deeper intuitions. It is surely the finest way to 'discern our vocation (Our Lord's calling)' in life. This is today's challenge - the 'Good Shepherd'.

Yes, to 'know' our prayers is one thing - to 'know' the Shepherd is quite another. Our deepest intuitions will always bear out the voice – the presence of the Shepherd, where we just know we are being led to truth, forgiveness, building each other up, peace and love. Fulfilment. Any negative energies such as revenge, greed, jealousy - we know them - is simply not the true shepherd, and we remain empty, unfulfilled, angry and frustrated. In fact, all alternative voices leave us feeling similar. Shall we make trying to listen for the one true voice, the one presence, our regular practice? Wouldn't that make us and the world around us somewhat happier and a better place to live?

First Reading: Acts 2:14, 36-41

Psalm: Psalm 22(23)

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:20-25

Gospel: John 10:1-10



MASS INTENTIONS	
Saturday 29th April	St Catherine of Siena
5.30pm	Irena Owczarek RIP (Anniv) (Krolikowski Family)
Sunday 30th April	Fourth Sunday of Easter
8.00am	John McMorroo RIP (Caroline & Steve Bunker)
10.00am	Parish Community
Monday 1st May	
9.30am	Fr Henry Young RIP
Tuesday 2nd May	St Athanasius
9.30am	Private Intention
Wednesday 3rd May	SS Philip and James
10.00am	Eva Murray RIP (Kathleen Murray)
Thursday 4th May	The English Martyrs
9.30am	Patricia Cotter RIP (Pat & Mary Rickard)
Friday 5th May	
9.30am	King Charles' Intentions
Saturday 6th May	St John Payne
5.30pm	Jack Gardiner RIP (Joan Gardiner)
Sunday 7th May	Fifth Sunday of Easter
8.00am Mass	Prayer Board Intentions
10.00am Mass	Parish Community and First Holy Communion Children

All Masses and Church Services are now Live Streamed.

To take part please go to <https://stream.seccomgroup.com/channel/olor>

Masses can be watched "live" or later as a recording.

<p>PARISH PRIEST Father Paul Fox 50 London Hill, Rayleigh Essex SS6 7HP 01268 38.24.99 www.olorchurch.org email: rayleigh@dioceseofbrentwood.org</p>	<p>Public Mass times: Saturdays 5.30pm Sundays 8am & 10.00am Mondays 9.30am Wednesdays 10.00am Thursdays & Fridays 9.30am <i>Please be aware - Times and days of weekday Masses are subject to change.</i></p>
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Sacrament of Reconciliation: 4.30pm – 5pm Saturday evenings (not in the confessional box).

Our Parish is part of The Brentwood Diocesan Trust, Registered Charity Number 234092



ANNIVERSARIES †

Kindly pray for Terry Askem, Vera Cooling, Fr. Andrew Dorricott, and Michael O'Flanagan, whose anniversaries occur about this time. May they rest in peace.

Receiving from the Chalice. *We have now re-introduced the Chalice. Please feel under NO obligation to receive from it. Please, let no-one push you in to either receiving or not receiving. It should be your own decision for the reasons mentioned at the end of this newsletter. It is on offer for those who wish to receive the precious Blood as well as the Sacred Host. We will attempt to offer the Chalice at all the weekend Masses.*

Mass 9.30am on Tuesday this week.

Mass on Friday at 9.30am will be offered for King Charles. There will be extra prayers during this Mass regarding the coronation and the future of his reign. Please help yourselves to prayer cards in the church porch.

This Sunday (30th) is Good Shepherd Sunday - World Day of Prayer for Vocations.

Please pray for vocations to the priesthood everywhere and for those currently training for the priesthood. (Please also pray for all who are choosing a vocation rather than a career). The second collection supports the education and formation of our seminarians training for mpriesthood. Please help yourselves to prayer cards in the church porch.

First Holy Communion Masses

Please note that these will happen at the 10am Masses next Sunday, May 7th when 14 of our children will receive Our Lord's Body for the first time; and the following Sunday, May 14th when 12 children will do the same. Please keep our First Holy Communion children and their families in your prayers.



First Holy Communion Rehearsal

First Holy Communion Rehearsal is on Wednesday 3rd May at the church. 6pm till 7.30pm. Parents and children are to attend.

NEWSLETTER ITEMS:

Please ensure all items for the parish newsletter are submitted to the office by **11am on Thursdays** at the latest.

Sunday Coffee Mornings

If you are interested in hosting a Coffee Morning after 10am Sunday Masses to raise money for a charity of your choice, please contact the parish office.



Kids' Bulletin

A children's version of the gospel is available weekly. This can be accessed on the following website: www.thekidsbulletin.com and is aimed at primary school children. It can be downloaded and printed out.

Children's Liturgy- Dates and news

Please note dates for children's liturgy over the next few weeks:

30th April - Children's Liturgy (2 groups)

7th May- NO Children's Liturgy- First Holy Communion Mass

14th May- NO Children's Liturgy- First Holy Communion Mass

21st May- Children's Liturgy (2 groups)

Exciting news - on the 30th April and 21st May we are trialling running 2 groups, so that we are able to tailor our exploration of the Gospel message to 2 separate age groups. Children will come to the session in the usual way, and those in school years 3-6 will continue through the Bethany room to the sacristy, with a leader. The younger group will remain for children ages 3 to year 2.



KNIGHTS SPONSORED WALK

As lay 100 project, the Rayleigh Knights Council 456, are walking from OLOR Church to St Teresa's Church Rochford on Friday 5th May and Saturday 6th May. This is part of a sponsored relay from church to church around the diocese, our leg being from Rayleigh to Rochford. Donations will be greatly appreciated. Please take an envelope as you leave church and return your donation to the presbytery. Thank you.

Knights of St. Columba Competitions 2023

EASTER YOUTH AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Submission Date is Friday, 19th May 2023

At present there are a number of competitions for young people such as:

Painting, Photography, Essay, and Prayer Competitions for different age groups: If anyone would like details, they may contact me and I will forward all the details. Please email:

marting.doyle@blueyonder.co.uk Bro Martin Doyle Action and Youth Officer Council 456 KSC



SVP Spring Tea Party – Thank You. The members of the SVP, Rayleigh, would like to express a huge thank you to all those who helped in any way to make the SVP Spring Tea a wonderful success last Saturday afternoon. Whether through donations of cakes, raffle prizes, catering, waiting on tables or transport, these all contributed to the success of the afternoon. Thank you and God Bless.

Westminster Cathedral Choristers. Tuesday 2nd May at 6pm

The Westminster Cathedral Choristers are coming to Brentwood Cathedral to sing. This will take the form of a Mass and a brief Recital, together lasting no more than an hour and a half. Seating could be reasonably limited, therefore, please email

ninahow@dioceseofbrentwood.org to advice if you will be attending.

Legion of Mary – please read

Help needed with Meals, Transport and Accommodation. Can you help?

The Peregrinatio Pro Christo (PPC) Committee (the HQ of the Legion of Mary) will be coming to our parish, from the 15th to the 22nd July 2023. It will be a team of 12 Legionaries. Can we offer accommodation for these 12 people in various homes? Meals and Transport?

Otherwise the accommodation could prove very expensive on the team. Some financial assistance can be offered. The individual members are happy to sort out some of their own food. Please let Fr. Paul, or Isobel Kennedy (01702 230578) know if you can help. Thank you. The Parish has assisted before, can we do so again?

Knitting and Dementia

Do you like knitting? Do you want to support Dementia? The council is currently working on Dementia Action Week for May 15-22nd in Rayleigh, and are asking if you would like to knit in order to assist with forget me nots to decorate Rayleigh High St. If you are interested, please call Elizabeth on 07803 139927. Thank you.

EDEL QUINN PILGRIMAGE TO AYLESFORD, KENT. SATURDAY 13th MAY 2023

All parishioners, their families and friends are invited to join us for our annual pilgrimage to the shrine at Aylesford. There will be Mass at noon, Rosary procession around the grounds in the afternoon and finishing with Benediction. Confessions are available, book shop etc. Bring your own picnic lunch or buy refreshments there. A coach has been booked – pickup point in Rayleigh is the bus stop outside M&S in Eastwood Rd. Pick up time 9.30am. Cost of coach place £15. To reserve a place please contact Isobel Kennedy 07795 821705 as soon as possible.



Caritas Networking Day

Interested in the Catholic response to homelessness, welcoming refugees and migrants, assisting with the Cost of Living Crisis, or tackling the causes and effects of climate change? Come to the first Caritas Brentwood networking day, **Saturday 10th June, 10am – 2.30pm, at Sacred Heart of Mary School, Upminster** (on C2C & District lines, close to M25 & A127). Hear **national speaker Raymond Friel, OBE**, Chief Executive of the Catholic Social Action network. This day is a chance to be sustained, share ideas and good practices with people from parishes across Essex and East London and hear about charities and resources available. Details and Registration (free!) at www.caritasbrentwood.org/network

Homes for Ukraine Matching Service

Caritas Social Action Network, in partnership with St John of God Hospitaller Services, an international Catholic charity with many services for the vulnerable in the UK and Ireland, is matching Ukrainian people displaced by war with people in the Catholic community, willing to host them in their homes for six months. If you have room in your home and heart to consider welcoming a stranger, then we'd love to hear from you. Please visit <https://sjog-homesforukraine.uk/> for more information.

The Brentwood Catholic Children's Society is inviting parishioners across the Diocese to join in with their annual 'Relay 100' community event this May and June. This initiative is an opportunity to remind our community about the work we do, to reach families who may need our support and to raise some funds through sponsored walks, runs or cycles. We are looking for 100 individuals or groups to complete a 'leg' of our relay around the diocese; we have routes of varying distances so there is something to suit all abilities. Can you help us? To find out more, please contact Damian Dillon: ddillon@bccs.org.uk / 07912 308000 or visit <https://www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events/> and click on 'Relay 100 Sponsored Walks' to read more about this event.

Permanent Diaconate Event with the Bishop, 20th May 2023

Saturday 20th May 2023, 11.00 (Mass) to 14.30 at St Anne Line Catholic Church, 7 Grove Crescent, South Woodford, London, E18 2JR

'Come and See' event on the Permanent Diaconate with Bishop Alan, for all those wishing to learn more about the ministry of deacons in the Church and in the Diocese. Of particular interest to men considering a call to serve as deacons, and to parish priests seeking to promote vocations within their parishes. For further information please contact kencarleton@dioceseofbrentwood.org.



Couples Struggling in their Marriages

Retrouvaille: A Programme for

Help Your Marriage – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage. Tens of thousands of couples headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. The programme helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. It helps them through difficult times whether they are disillusioned or in deep misery. There is no group therapy or group work. For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the next programme commencing with a Virtual weekend on 6 - 9 July 2023 or a Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 13-15 October 2023, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 or email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

Clare Priory Pilgrimage, Sunday 14th May

11.30am Rosary and procession to the Shrine; 12.15pm Service of Reconciliation and Adoration; 2.15pm Mass of the Day. Further information contact: 01787 277326.
Email: clarepriory@clarepriory.net Clare Priory, Clare, Suffolk CO10 8NX
Website: www.clarepriory.org.uk

Praying for the unborn and women facing crisis pregnancies

Join Lord Alton on a sponsored walk from where Tolkien wrote The Lord of the Rings
There will be two sponsored walks in support of Right To Life UK in May.
The Christian Heritage Centre, based at Stonyhurst College, Lancashire, has organised a sponsored walk along the Tolkien Trail on Monday 8 May. Discounted accommodation will be available at Theodore House, Stonyhurst.
The Burnley Knights of St Columba and Catenian Circle 154 have also organised a 10km sponsored walk for Right To Life UK on Monday 29 May.
For further details on how you can join either of the walks visit:
www.righttolife.org.uk/sponsoredwalks

SION COMMUNITY CHARISMATIC TEACHING WEEKEND

From 6pm Friday 19th May to 2pm Sunday 21st May 2023. Theme: 'Living the Prophetic Lifestyle' (part of the 'Moving in the Anointing' series). This weekend is a great follow-up to 'Life in the Spirit' seminars and an opportunity to grow in the Gifts and Charisms of the Holy Spirit. Guest Speaker: Dominic McDermott. Cost: £120 residential, £80 non-residential. Book early as we have limited spaces. To book a place or for more info, visit:
<https://sioncommunity.churchsuite.com/events/f8v3emks>

March for Life UK

Save The Date; The Annual London March for Life will take place on Saturday 2nd September.

THE THRESHOLDS OF HOPE EASTER TALKS will explore what it means to have an intimate friendship with Christ. They will take place on Wednesdays 10th, 17th and 24th of May at St Francis of Assisi, Stratford, E15 1NS from 7.30 - 9.00 p.m. The first talk, "*Calling on the name of Jesus*," will be given by Fr Martin Boland, the Dean of Brentwood Cathedral. All very welcome..

GIDEA PARK STUDY DAY ON POPE BENEDICT AND THE LITURGY

On Saturday 20th May, from 11.00 to 13.00 BST, Fr Vincent Twomey SVD, student and friend of Pope Benedict XVI, will speak on 'The Liturgical Vision of Pope Benedict'. The event will not be in person but live streamed from Ireland on www.whatgoodnews.org. Fr Twomey has recently produced 'The Dynamics of Liturgy: Joseph Ratzinger's Theology of Liturgy', published by Ignatius Press. Further details of the event are to be found on the attached flyer and on the website www.whatgoodnews.org A recording of the study day will be made available subsequently on the website.

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Vacancies:

Hospitality Manager at Walsingham House at Abbotswick. Walsingham House are seeking to appoint a friendly, reliable and trustworthy Hospitality Manager. The postholder will be responsible for welcoming groups wishing to use the retreat centre, being a point of contact and managing the practicalities of the day. For more information please see www.bcys.net or email Claire Bailey for more information (clairebailey@brcdt.org) The closing date for applications is midday on Friday 12th May 2023.

Primary School Link Adviser

The Diocese of Brentwood is seeking to appoint a Primary School Link Adviser who is a practising Catholic, to support the Diocesan Board of Education and its family of schools. This is likely to be a part-time post of either 3 or 4 days a week, however, consideration will also be given to applicants who are seeking a full-time or secondment opportunity. The Primary Link Adviser will report to the Diocesan Director of Education and Deputy Director.

Further details and an application form can be obtained here:

<https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/primary-link-adviser-vacancy/>

The closing date for applications is midday on Friday 28th April 2023

Interviews will be held on Tuesday 2nd May 2023

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society is looking for a **Fundraising and Partnerships Manager** to join their team. This is an excellent opportunity for an enthusiastic and motivated individual to gain valuable experience in fundraising for an established and expanding charity. The Fundraising and Partnership Manager will be

required to generate income from new and existing fundraising activities and to develop and manage relationships across key support audiences. Applicants must have excellent organisational skills and be proficient at managing their time and priorities effectively, working independently and creatively. Read the full Job Description and Person Specification at <https://www.bccs.org.uk/who-we-are/work-us/> Applications should be returned to Julie Abbott, Head of Voluntary Income at jabbott@bccs.org.uk before the application deadline of Friday 12th May at midday.

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Closing Date: 28 May 2023, 9.00am

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